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Ukraine Supreme Soviet Adopts No Confidence Motion

The Ukraine Supreme Soviet voted today to adopt "a decision expressing no confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers as a whole, which, in accordance with Article 117 of Ukraine's Constitution, entails its resignation," reports ITAR-TASS. In addition, "the Ukrainian president has been advised to instruct the members of the present government to discharge the duties incumbent upon them pending the appointment of a new cabinet and, within 10 days, to propose for consideration by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet a candidate for the post of Ukrainian prime minister."

Introduction of Peacekeeping Forces in Tajikistan Still Premature

"The question of introducing peacekeeping forces into Tajikistan is still premature," General Colonel Eduard Vorobyev, high command chairman of Russia's land forces, stated in an INTERFAX report, because "conditions necessary for such a deployment have not yet been established in the republic." If the conflict in Tajikistan escalates, however, the general believes CIS forces, not peacekeeping forces, would be used, "because only they would be capable of disarming the combatants." Such actions, according to the general, would be undertaken jointly by CIS leaders and only after appeals by the Tajik Government. The general warned that "the republic's leadership must, as soon as possible, devise an effective mechanism for putting a stop to this fratricidal war, otherwise it may take on a geopolitical character—and that might lead to the involvement of nearby states of the commonwealth."

Yeltsin Signs Experimental Land Auction Decree

Russian President Boris Yeltsin has signed the decree "on the experimental sale of plots of land in Moscow oblast in 1992 for private housing construction," ITAR-TASS reports. With this decree, land, previously owned solely by the state, is being offered on the open market "for the first time" since the end of the totalitarian regime in Russia. According to presidential press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov, land will be sold at auction first in Ramenskiy Rayon. After this "experiment" is completed, the government committee for land reform will "assess the results." Proceeds from the sale of land will be given to central and local budgets "on a proportional basis."

Chubays Satisfied With Distribution of Privatization Vouchers

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Chubays said yesterday that he is "satisfied" with the beginning of the distribution of privatization vouchers, Moscow international radio reports. Promising to resolve technical problems soon, Chubays said that all vouchers would be distributed within three months and again urged Russians not to be hasty in selling them.

Shaposhnikov Attends Defense Forum in France

Urges Russian Control of Nuclear Arms

LD3009151492 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1200 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov has spoken against outside interference in the dispute between Russia and the Ukraine on control of nuclear weapons. In a speech at the Paris conference of defense ministers, he again stressed that strategic nuclear weapons of the former USSR should be handed over to Russia's control.

Meets French Defense Minister

PM0110125592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Oct 92 p 3

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent A. Krivykh: "Meeting of CIS Joint Armed Forces Commander in Chief With French Defense Minister"]

[Text] Paris, 30 Sep—Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, who is taking part in the "New Strategic Debates" international colloquium on defense questions here, has met with French Defense Minister Pierre Joxe. In a brief interview to the ITAR-TASS correspondent, Marshal Ye. Shaposhnikov stated that they had discussed the situation in European and CIS "hot spots," and primarily in the former Yugoslavia and Tajikistan. It was emphasized that the command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces is doing everything to ensure stability in CIS countries, and that, specifically, additional measures have been adopted to protect the border with Afghanistan. Ye. Shaposhnikov also noted that certain results of the cooperation between the armed forces of the CIS and France had been summed up, and the positive experience which has been gained in the exchange of officer cadets was noted.

Institute of Stock Market Exchange Set Up

LD2909181192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1758 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—A market of securities which is being formed in Russia received yet another institution—an international institute of stock-exchange market that was founded today in Moscow by the Russian Stock Exchange, several banks and research economic centers. The institute has status of a non-government and non-commercial organisation.

A constituent conference noted that the experience of activities of investment companies and stock exchanges revealed insufficient qualifications of specialists who started to work at the securities market. The population lacks the necessary information and methodological documents on the implementation of projects of privatization and transformation of state enterprises into joint-stock companies. The new institute is intended to concentrate educational, scientific, analytical and research projects, intellectual and financial funds of investment companies and state structures in Russia, as well as the organisations concerned of the European Community countries.

Members of the Supervision Council of the Institute include prominent Russian and foreign economists, such as Academician Leonid Abalkin, Jean-Pierre Palink, secretary-general of the Federation of the European Community Stock Exchanges, and representatives of various ministries and departments.

Draft Agenda for Foreign Ministers' Conference

OW0210114292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1111 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A conference of foreign ministers of the CIS countries opens in Moscow on October 5 to debate the draft of an agenda for the summit, scheduled for October 9 in Bishkek.

As an INTERFAX correspondent has learned, the ministers have been presented with the 18-point draft agenda. It's suggested that the summit discuss ways to bring the economic legislations of the Community's participant-states closer together, set up an interstate TV and Radio company, mutually recognize rights and regulate property relations, devise a single monetary system and coordinate a monetary, credit, and currency policy of the states that have retained the ruble as their legitimate means of payment (that agenda point has been proposed by Kazakhstan). It's also suggested that the summit exchange views on how to set up a CIS consultative coordinating economic council, debate the draft of a Community Charter, and consider the possibility of forming an economic court.

The heads of state and government are also to look into ways of cooperation between the CIS countries to stabilize the situation on their external borders (a proposal from Uzbekistan), coordinate a defence security concept for the CIS member-states, and discuss participation of the CIS members in the USSR-U.S. treaties on scraping medium and shorter range missiles and limiting antiballistic missile defence systems.

A group of military experts wishes the Bishkek summit would examine the situation with the Supreme Command of the CIS Combined Armed Forces, compare notes on the strategic forces, and scrutinize an agreement between Russia and Ukraine on the principles of forming their navies on the basis of the former USSR Black Sea Fleet.

The heads of state are also proposed to consider the possibility of restoring the rights of deported individuals, ethnic minorities, and peoples.

Defence matters will also come up for discussion at a CIS meeting to be held in Bishkek on October 8th at defence ministers level.

Impact of Nazarbayev Union Initiative Viewed

MK0110123392 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Oct 92 p 1

[Report by Vitaliy Portnikov under the "Union?" rubric: "Niyazov, Karimov, Akayev—Against a New Union. Has the 'Ukrainian Group' Been Resurrected?"]

[Text] Following in the footsteps of Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, Belarus Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich, and Moldovan President Mircea Snegur, first of all Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov at a meeting with his country's creative intelligentsia in Ashgabat, and then Uzbek President Islam Karimov and Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev at a joint news conference in Tashkent expressed their opposition to the creation of any kind of confederation on the basis of the CIS. Nursultan Nazarbayev's initiative, his famous "five-point plan," proved to be a failure even before the opening of the Bishkek meeting, and it can now be stated with complete certainty that there will not be any new union of states. The Russian leadership, which kept silent on the subject of Nazarbayev's initiatives and was therefore identified by certain political circles in the republics as the inspirer of the plan, has managed to clamber out of the ruins of the collapsed initiative at the last moment thanks to President Yeltsin's message to the CIS countries' leaders.

But nevertheless Yeltsin was too hasty. In his message, the CIS countries seemed to be divided into two categories—those who are prepared for further integration and those who are not—and Russia expressed the desire to develop bilateral contacts with the latter, which seemed to save both the illusory "union of states" and the CIS in its present fairly amorphous form. But following the Central Asian leaders' reaction, only Kazakhstan can be counted as belonging to the first group. The leaders of Azerbaijan, which has not yet resolved the question of entry into the CIS; of Armenia, which does not have borders with the possible subjects of the failed union; and of Tajikistan, caught in the nightmarish grip of civil war, have not expressed an opinion.

Initially, observers connected Nazarbayev's initiative with the Russian-Ukrainian conciliation in Dagomys and Yalta. When it became obvious that President Kravchuk, just like the Belarusian leaders, is not aspiring to any new integration, there was talk of a Russian-Central Asian association. Furthermore, it was probably thought that the president of Kazakhstan put forward his initiative following consultations with his colleagues in the CIS. But, as was the case with the sensational idea of the "15 plus 0" meeting which was born in the months of the death throes of the Soviet Union, Nazarbayev had decided merely to check the rating of his proposal, leaving consultations with the presidents to the journalists. No doubt the president of Kazakhstan had first and foremost resolved one of the internal political tasks: The head of a state with such a complex ethnic population makeup as Kazakhstan simply has to constantly uphold the image of an advocate of integration. Nazarbayev was always brilliant at playing this role, and it never got in the way of his efforts to construct an independent state, just as being elected head of the World Kazakh Community at the general assembly of Kazakhs of Kazakhstan and the diaspora did not prevent the president from simultaneously convening a congress of the peoples of Kazakhstan. But if we recall that the initiative was made on the threshold of Nazarbayev's visit to Germany and France, whose leaders are sympathetic to the integration

processes on the territory of the former Union, we have to admit that the president of Kazakhstan has squeezed all the juice out of the fantastic fruit he has grown.

But, at the same time, the Kazakh leader has managed to achieve the impossible: To have resurrected the "Ukrainian group" within the CIS, which had seemingly departed this life never to return. It would seem that this group had lost all of its members, and its leader, under the pressure of economic realities, had made up his mind to reach the "resort agreements" with the Russian president. But the specter of a new union has forced Kravchuk, and Shushkevich, and Snegur, and Niyazov, and Karimov to recall the former consolidation, and has forced Akayev, who sees himself as in tune with the mood of the majority, to occupy a position close to them. The "Ukrainian group" has become so big, surprising even itself, that one could expect the Russian Federation, which has found itself in an ambiguous situation, to join it. And now it can be said for sure that a reluctance to unite is uniting the CIS states.

CIS Armies To Pay for Russian Training

PM2509090992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Sep 92 p 1

[Russian Federation Defense Ministry Press Service report: "Training Will Have To Be Paid For"]

[Text] Russian military training establishments have sent over 7,000 highly-trained officers to the CIS countries' armies this year. Around 5,000 of them went to Ukraine, over 1,800 to Belarus, and the rest to other nearby foreign states.

Russia is ready to continue helping CIS countries to train military cadres, but on new terms. As early as in the current training year, the status of these countries' representatives at Russian Federation Defense Ministry military higher educational establishments will be changed to that of foreign citizens. Their training will naturally have to be paid for. True, a short transitional period is envisaged here. CIS countries' servicemen who started training before 1992 will be taken to graduation on the previous terms.

At present, agreements on training servicemen at Russian Federation Defense Ministry training establishments have already been concluded with Belarus and Kazakhstan. Talks on this subject are being held with Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Kyrgyzstan.

Forces Reassigning Servicemen to National Armies

PM2909092592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Sep 92 p 3

[Russian Federation Defense Ministry Press Service report: "Deleted From Personnel Rolls"]

[Text] The process of reassigning and deleting from the Russian Armed Forces' personnel rolls those servicemen who have expressed a desire to serve in the national armies of the former USSR's independent republics is continuing.

The cadres organs began to work actively in this direction in April 1992. According to the figures of the Main Administration for Training and Placing Russian Federation Ministry of Defense Personnel, at the present time 14,250 officers have been reassigned to CIS countries. These include 12,348 men to Ukraine, 622 to Azerbaijan, 514 to Belarus, 390 to Moldova, 262 to Armenia, 112 to Uzbekistan, 110 to Kazakhstan, and 110 to Kyrgyzstan. About 2,000 requests are at the stage of being processed. In the opinion of specialists, this process could proceed much more quickly if there was an appropriate legal basis in relations with all the Commonwealth's member states. At present, Russia has only concluded accords and agreements with Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan on this matter.

Weapons Thefts in CIS Trouble Spots Viewed

LD2809100792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2100 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Commentary by Etibar Dzhafarov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The trouble spots that have sprung up on the map of the former Soviet Union have given rise to a trend for firearms to be stolen, seized, and sometimes bought up wholesale. The arms trade exists on both sides of the conflicts—both for the purposes of attack, and for the purposes of defense. In the event of acute shortages, steel foundries are retooled and home-made weapons—mortars, submachine guns, grenades, and even rocket launchers—are put into mass production.

A discreet class of people is appearing among the belligerents—a criminal fraternity. They are lured by the chance of easy money, and by the fact that it is possible to engage in looting and to obtain firearms—the tools of their criminal activities—without hindrance and, most important of all, with impunity. As it happens, the grenade launcher that was used on Kutuzovskiy Prospekt was home-made. But that is no relief to anyone.

Submachine guns and pistols stolen or seized in republics that are in a state of war are appearing more and more in towns with a flourishing mafia. In Azerbaijan alone, about 8,000 firearms have been stolen or seized during the conflict. In the Dniester region the figure is over 10,000.

There is no simple way of preventing these thefts of weapons, let alone of retrieving them. The number of retrieved weapons is disastrously insignificant compared with the numbers stolen. The situation is also hampered by the fact that, as a rule, people who ought to be

guarding these weapons closely also turn out to be involved in criminal collusion.

[Begin Russian Defense Minister Grachev recording] They choose a very simple method. They surround military units. They surround arms dumps, barracks, and so on. They surround them with children, women, and elderly people. This is found particularly in the Muslim world. It is very much accepted. In some cases it is frequently done. As a result of collusion involving a pretense of physical injury, the weapons sometimes leave the dumps. There are also cases when there is collusion with officers and warrant officers, and these cases sometimes involve Russians, not only troops of local nationality. The motive is profit. These are rare cases, but they do happen, and I do not want to conceal this. [end recording]

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 2 Oct

LD0210062492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0519 GMT 2 Oct 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 2 TASS—Today's newspapers carry reports about the beginning of the large-scale privatisation in Russia which started yesterday with the issuing of privatisation vouchers to residents of Russia.

"The government has begun a large-scale voucherisation without waiting for the final verdict of the parliament, and there has been no keen demand for vouchers so far," the newspaper NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA said.

"However, the calmness among ordinary citizens caused by the large-scale privatisation obviously contrasts with high passions in the highest echelons of power. The government is apparently interested in carrying out vaucharisarion [as received] without preliminary permission in order to put the Supreme Soviet before the fact of the irreversibility of the process," the newspaper said.

The youth daily KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA comments on Thursday's trading session on the Moscow inter-bank currency exchange where the ruble exchange rate dropped to a record low 309 rubles for one U.S. dollar.

"Russia has obviously entered a period of uncontrolled hyperinflation," the newspaper said.

Newspapers publish reports from the hearings in the Russian Constitutional Court considering the legality of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decrees banning the Communist Party in Russia.

"The presidential side's accusations against the CPSU are based on the following scheme: The party was a state structure," the newspaper PRAVDA said, adding that "life is much more complicated than this scheme."

"The party's problem was that smart proposals and plans of specialists were often turned down by authoritarian decisions of the president-general secretary who was out of control of collegiate bodies," PRAVDA said.

The newspaper offers a critical article by Aleksandr Shinkin about former Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev, in which the author wants Gorbachev to be called to account for many of his deeds "no matter how hard he is trying to hide behind arguments about perestroyka, freedom and peace."

"There is no justification for Mikhail Gorbachev's refusal to testify in the Constitutional Court. All his arguments that the process has acquired a political tint, even if they are absolutely valid, have nothing to do with his presence in court," KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA said.

Russia "is sinking deeper into debts," Mikhail Gurtovoy, head of the governmental team set up to fight corruption in Russia, said.

In an interview with the trade union daily TRUD, Gurtovoy explains his pessimism by the ineffectiveness of Russia's foreign trade, primarily in oil. "The country gets back only one fourth of the cost of its oil exports," while the rest ends up on accounts of foreign firms, Gurtovoy said.

"Russia is and will always be a space power," Vladimir Ivanov, commander of the space troops of the Russian Defence Ministry, told the military daily KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

Ivanov believes Russia needs "breath-taking space programmes."

There is nothing that can politically separate Russia and South Korea, South Korean Ambassador to Russia Hong Sun-yong told KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

The ambassador believes Russian-South Korean cooperation has great potential from the economic point of view, including in science, technology, joint production of consumer goods and development of natural resources in Russia.

Speaking about Yeltsin's upcoming visit to South Korea, the diplomat expressed confidence that the visit will give powerful impetus to the development of contacts between the two countries and open doors for broad communication between the Russian and South Korean peoples.

Gaydar Postpones Visit to Ukraine

OW0110153692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] INTERFAX has been informed that acting Russian Governmental Chairman Yegor Gaydar will not travel to Kiev today, October 1st. The visit had been timed to coincide with negotiations which are in progress on the resolution of financial questions between Russia and Ukraine. Gaydar told a government session on Thursday [1 October] that he will now probably fly to Kiev on Saturday [3 October].

The Russian Government has also prepared a unified state plan for the protection of the population against the effects of the Chernobyl disaster for 1993-1995, and for a period lasting until the year 2000. INTERFAX has been informed that the programme provides for the construction of living accommodation and the relocation of around 16,000 people from the zone affected by radiation, first and foremost from the Bryansk region. Gaydar proposed that the programme should include a provision for the introduction of a so-called "Chernobyl tax" like the one which already exists in Belarus and Ukraine. This programme must be approved by the Supreme Soviet.

The governmental session of October 1st discussed the progress towards the conclusion of a mutual collaboration treaty between the government and the Russian Association of Farm Holdings and Agricultural Cooperatives (AKKOR).

The government has pledged its full support for this public organisation and has decided that farmers must be given financial aid via banks on equal terms with other sectors of the economy.

Gaydar Leaves for Warsaw

LD0210075392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0738 GMT 2 Oct 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow October 2 TASS—Russia's acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar left for Warsaw on Friday [2 October].

During his official visit to Poland, Gaydar is expected to meet with the Polish leaders to discuss trade and economic cooperation between the two countries and Poland's debt to Russia.

Early on Saturday [3 October], Gaydar will fly to Kiev to attend talks on Ukrainian-Russian relations.

Details of Yerevan Visit Accords

MK0210090492 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Oct 92 p 1

[Report by Armen Khanbabyan under the "Armenia" rubric: "Yegor Gaydar in Yerevan. Armenia Remaining in Ruble Zone"]

[Text] On 30 September, the prime ministers of Russia and Armenia signed in Yerevan a package of documents concerning the prospects for economic, trade, and financial cooperation between the two states. In Yegor Gaydar's words, the treaty on a single credit and finance policy is of an indefinite nature, and this means that if in the future Russia introduces new money, Armenia will still remain within the ruble zone, although—as Gaydar observed—if it so wishes it may subsequently leave it, which will meet with understanding on Moscow's part after all reciprocal settlements have been sorted out.

Concerning the negotiations connected with the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and an end to the blockade of Armenia, Gaydar reported that in Baku he signed an agreement with the government of Azerbaijan on the unimpeded transit of freight destined for Armenia across the territory of Azerbaijan. Russia is also interested in an end to the blockade, which is complicating the development of its cooperation with Iran: All the transport links pass through the territory of the conflicting sides. "The main thing today," Gaydar said, "is a cease-fire in Karabakh. We have achieved a truce in the Dniester region and South Ossetia. Now, albeit with difficulty, we are seeking to achieve the same result in Abkhazia. I hope that the Russian peace initiatives on Karabakh will bear fruit, inasmuch as—as I was able to convince myself—both Baku and Yerevan are interested in this." But the political aspect of the problem, which Gaydar regards as very important, is a subject of consultations within the CSCE framework.

The sides have not yet signed the treaty on Russia's participation in rehabilitating the earthquake zone, although this treaty has been prepared. The document is now with the presidents of both states and will be signed by them later. Certain questions of a military nature, as it was stated, were touched on during the visit, and the Armenian president's order on the status of Russian border troops on the republic's territory was signed in particular.

Yerevan hopes that Russian orders will enable it to avoid the closure of many enterprises and resolve the problem of looming unemployment in the republic's military-industrial complex, which constitutes the basis of Armenian industry.

Poltoranin Addresses OANA Executive Committee

LD0110221192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0927 GMT 30 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—The fate of Russian reforms is crucial for the future of the world. If they succeed,

the road to full-blooded, open and just cooperation between all countries will be free. If not, the threat of a nuclear war may loom again over the planet. This statement was made on Wednesday [30 September] by Russian Vice-Premier Mikhail Poltoranin who spoke on the opening day of the session of the Executive Committee of the Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies (OANA).

Welcoming the participants in the meeting, Poltoranin said it was symbolical that it was held in Moscow, a venue of the victory of the Russian people over many years of fear and reaction, from which the process of democratic change sweeping now the territory of the former Soviet Union first originated. Mass media played a great role in that by giving true accounts to its readers and listeners. The position of many foreign mass media, including those from Asia and the Pacific which supported Russian and displayed adherence to the ideals of freedom, also played a great role.

According to Poltoranin, the Russian Government attaches great significance to its high profile in OANA which ensures a free circulation of information, a genuine freedom of the mass media and pluralism. He also emphasised that the Russian leadership firmly adheres to the principles of free information space, and Russia is open to cooperation in this sphere.

Renunciation by Russia of the cold war politics had a favourable effect on the climate of the vast Asia-Pacific region. There appeared a possibility to promote wider contacts and interrelation between peoples, cooperation of mass media in shaping up international public opinion. It is exactly these goals that OANA pursues according to its charter, the vice premier noted.

Russia today passes through a difficult painful period of reforms, Poltoranin continued. It is unfortunately impossible to move away from the highly militarized economy to normal civilised production without these difficulties, without a logical economic slump and a falling in the standards of living. "Our main goal, and this also applies to mass media, is to preserve at this stage the socio-political stability of society, not to waver in the face of ultimatums by revenge-seekers, to make democratic changes irreversible."

Today's world is held hostage by the instability in Russia, Poltoranin continued. If national fascism triumphs here, then a nuclear threat will loom large over the world. If democracy and common sense take the upper hand, then the planet will breathe freely.

Poltoranin conveyed to the participants in the forum a message of greetings from Russian President Boris Yeltsin and his wishes of successful work in promoting OANA goals.

Foreign Ministry Denies Landsbergis Statement

LD0110124192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] The Russian Foreign Ministry has denied the statement by Vytautas Landsbergis, head of the Lithuanian parliament, to the effect that the Russian Foreign Ministry is conducting an anti-Baltic campaign abroad. Vladimir Derbinev, deputy chief of the Information Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry, told a Radio Liberty correspondent that this statement is a reaction by the Lithuanian leadership to the fact that Russia has raised the problem of the violation of the rights of the Russian-speaking population in Lithuania at the UN.

Government Decisions on Foreign Issues

PM3009102392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Sep 92 First Edition p 7

[Unattributed reports under the "Official" rubric under the general headline "Agreements, Decisions..."]

[Text] By a government ordinance various interested Russian Federation ministries and departments, primarily the Foreign Ministry, which are participating in the activity of the UN Economic Commission for Europe and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, have been instructed to coordinate the elaboration of projects aimed at the economic development of Russia and to utilize the results of international cooperation when implementing reforms in the country. It has been instructed that the recently created Far East Association for Economic Collaboration, "Sibirskoye soglasheniye" [Siberian Agreement] interregional association, and Russian National Committee for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation are to be involved in the work of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

The Russian Government has resolved to transform the missions of the Russian Association for International Cooperation and Soviet scientific and cultural clubs and centers in foreign countries into regional offices of the Russian Agency for International Cooperation and Development, set up in August by the president's decree.

With the aim of implementing the accords with the Polish Government on settling property, financial, and other problems associated with the withdrawal of Russian troops from Polish territory, the Russian part of the Russian-Polish commission for the economic aspects of this question has been formed by a resolution of the Russian Federation Government.

Proceeding from the need to coordinate the activity of various Russian departments in the UN system's international organizations, the Russian Government has resolved to set up a government commission for the Russian Federation's participation in them.

A government ordinance has approved a draft memorandum on mutual understanding which was agreed in entirety with the Commission of European Communities

and which defines the general conditions for granting the Vneshekonombank [Bank for Foreign Economic Activity] a medium-term EC loan of 150 million European currency units [ECU's] against government guarantee for the specific purpose of using it on the delivery to Russia of medical goods from EC countries or East European and Baltic states.

Taiwan Recruiting Russian Scientists

PM0110111592 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Sep 92 p 3

[Report from PRAVDA, EFIR-DAYDZHEST, and ITAR-TASS roundup under the "Brief and Clear" rubric: "Brain Drain to Taiwan Too"]

[Text] Taiwan has taken on 20 scientists from countries of the former Soviet bloc to work. A Taiwan delegation is setting out for Russia to look for new candidates to work in universities and research centers.

Chinese Envoy Examines Ties on National Day

OW0110222492 Moscow Radio Moscow in Mandarin 1100 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Speech by Wang Jinqing, Chinese ambassador plenipotentiary to Russia, to the Chinese people on the 43d anniversary of the founding of the PRC; place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] Respected countrymen: At a time when people of all nationalities are jubilantly marking the national day, I want to take advantage of this opportunity which Radio Moscow has offered me to express to you my warm festive greetings. I also want to use this opportunity to express my sincere regards for people of all nationalities in Russia.

To we Chinese, 1 October 1949 is a day (?to remember). It was [words indistinct] in the revolutionary history of Chinese people of all nationalities. In the past, China had made brilliant contributions to the world civilization and culture, but it had declined and had become a semifeudal state, a semicolony, and an extremely backward country as result of the imperialist powers' invasion and the reactionary government's corruption and impotence. People still can remember how poor and backward the old China was and the way it was bullied.

Earthshaking changes have indeed occurred in our country over the past 43 years. Especially after China followed the reform and open policy of a decade or so ago, we have achieved rapid, world-renowned success in all fields, which have profoundly changed China's outlook. China's economic strength today is strong as never before, and the Chinese people's material and cultural lives have improved substantially. Because of our achievements, China has now assumed its rightful status in the international community.

Respected countrymen, comrades: As diplomatic personnel stationed overseas, we consider it our duty to follow through China's independent and peaceful policies and develop friendship and cooperation with all countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, thereby creating an environment beneficial to our national construction and playing our part in expediting China's economic development.

China and Russia are each other's largest neighbors. The two peoples have been traditionally friendly and cooperative. Late last year, the Chinese Government officially proclaimed its recognition of the Government of the Russian Federation. Representatives from the two governments met and acknowledged in the minutes of their talks that the principles prescribed in the two Sino-Soviet Joint Communiques issued in 1989 and 1991 would remain effective in guiding the development of Sino-Russian relations. The two sides (?also pledged) to undertake the obligations prescribed in the treaties and agreements which the former Soviet Union signed with China. The two sides reiterated that they would continue to develop their good neighborliness, friendship, and cooperation on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The Chinese side reaffirmed the Chinese Government's consistent stand on the Taiwan issue, and the Russian side expressed its respect and support on this stand. This principle has major significance for the healthy development of Sino-Russian relations.

Sino-Russian relations continue to develop this year. During their meeting in New York last January, Premier Li Peng and President Yeltsin reached a common understanding on the development of the two countries' good neighborliness and cooperation. The convening of the first meeting of the Sino-Russian Intergovernmental Committee for Economic, Trade, and Scientific-Technological Cooperation in Moscow last August paved the way for the development of the two countries' economic, trade, and scientific-technological cooperation. Today, the two countries' exchanges have been expanding in all these spheres, laying a good foundation for their good neighborly and cooperative relations.

Our two countries' friendly coexistence is in the fundamental interests of the two peoples. The many Russian friends with whom I have contacted are pleased with the achievements which Chinese people have made in recent years. They also clearly understand that we also sincerely hope they can surmount the problems they are now facing. There is a great potential for Sino-Russian cooperation in the economic and [word indistinct] fields. This year, trade has been very active along the two countries' borders; and technical cooperation between the two countries continues to develop. The friendship between our two peoples is a profound one. Looking toward to the future, we can see that there are broad prospects for cooperation between our two countries. Of course this does not mean that our two countries have no problems that need to be resolved. We believe, however, that the relations between our two countries will continue to develop as long as we seriously abide by the policies governing our relations, act with sincerity, and exert

common efforts, because this is very necessary for peace, friendship and good neighborliness between our two great countries and great peoples. Needless to say, this is also very important for world peace and development.

In mid-December of this year, Russian President Yeltsin will pay an official visit to China at the invitation of the president of our republic. I am convinced that the visit will powerfully promote the development of our two countries' friendship and good neighborliness and contribute to the world's peaceful cause. I wholeheartedly wish the visit to be a complete success.

Comrades, countrymen: Although we diplomatic personnel are physically stationed abroad, our hearts are in our motherland. The thing we want to see most is a strong and thriving China; and the thing we want to do most is to safeguard our motherland's sovereignty and dignity and promote the development of friendship with all countries. Today, acting on the instructions which Comrade Deng Xiaoping made during his southern China tour, people throughout China are actively engaged in deepening reform, opening wider to the outside, expediting economic development, and improving the people's livelihood. Let us all—people at home and abroad—work hard together to accomplish China's modernization as quickly as possible. As in all other festivals, we miss you dearly. On the eve of our national day, I wish you, dear comrades and countrymen, health, successful careers, and a happy family life.

Spokesman Disavows Cypriot Turkish Republic

LD0110200792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1453 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Sergey Yastrzhembskiy has described the efforts by the so-called Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus seeking to establish separate relations with some republics of the Russian Federation as "provocative as regards Russia's position on Cyprus."

Speaking at a briefing at the Russian Foreign Ministry press centre in Moscow on Tuesday [29 September], Yastrzhembskiy said Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev's recent visit to northern Cyprus illustrates this point.

"Such attempts do not have and cannot have any international legal basis," the spokesman said.

Guided by U.N. decisions, Russia "recognises no other Cypriot state but the Republic of Cyprus," Yastrzhembskiy said.

He said the third round of intercommunity talks to be held in New York City at the end of October have real chances of being successfully completed this year.

Official Views Russian Troop Deployment

LD0110190392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1239 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—"Russia must clearly determine its stand on the deployment of its troops within the boundaries of CIS countries," secretary of the Russian Supreme Soviet's Committee for Defence and Security Valeriy Shuykov believes. Asked by ITAR-TASS to comment on the growing number of attempts to threaten the Russian military personnel, to capture hostages and hardware, he said: "What we are now witnessing in Tajikistan may draw closer to the borders of Russia proper and even spread to its territory".

Supporting the decision of the Russian Defence Ministry to urgently reinforce units of the 201st Motorised Infantry Division, deployed in Tajikistan, Shuykov stressed that it was "necessary to urgently determine the status of Russian troops stationed in CIS countries, and to decide, first and foremost, the terms on which they will remain there".

Shuykov explained in this connection: "If there are reasons to keep our troops outside Russia, we must reinforce them with lacking numbers of soldiers, seargents and officers, but not hastily, as it was done in Tajikistan. If not, we must display courage and withdraw all the Russian divisions from CIS countries and deploy them in our own towns and territories". "If we decide to do it," Shuykov said, "we must demarkate the Russian borders and begin to guard them in accordance with international practices. Such a decision, if adopted by the parliament and the president, would not call in question the necessity of guarding the borders of the CIS. It will merely be necessary to strictly abide by the achieved agreements," he noted.

"The situation with Russian troops has grown so acute that every day of procrastination and indecision brings substantial economic and political losses to Russia," Shuykov stressed.

Yeltsin Decree Facilitates Sale of Yak-141

LD0110230292

[Editorial] Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 1800 GMT on 1 October broadcasts in its "Novosti" newscast a report from the Farnborough air show by correspondent V. Shishkovskiy, who says that the Yak-141 multipurpose fighter was one of the highlights of the Farnborough show, far outstripping other planes in its class. During the report, Shishkovskiy interviews aircraft designer A.N. Dondukov, who says that thus far only Russia has placed orders for the Yak-141. He adds: "A decree by Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin has given our corporation the right to carry out foreign trade negotiations and conclude a contract before investment in a program. Subsequently, our government will authorize the organization of a [words indistinct] within the framework of a tri- or quadripartite agreement with a number of interested organizations of Asia and Latin America."

Yeltsin Signs Experimental Land Auction Decree

LD0210092592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0830 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Text] Moscow, 2 Oct (ITAR-TASS)—Russia's President Boris Yeltsin has signed the decree "On experimental sale of plots of land in Moscow oblast in 1992 for private housing construction." According to Vyacheslav Kostikov, the president's press secretary, in accordance with this document, auction sales of land to the inhabitants of Moscow and Moscow oblast for the purpose of constructing private houses will be carried out on the territory of Ramenskiy rayon of Moscow oblast. On the completion of the experiment the government committee for land reform will assess its results. By this decree, for the first time since the demolition of the totalitarian regime in Russia, the most important asset—land, which hitherto was under the sole ownership of the state—is being brought onto the open market.

This marks the start of working out the mechanism of the real privatization of land as a separate asset. The experiment will help to establish the market price for land and lay the foundations for solving the housing problem on the basis of a free market. It has been decided to channel the money raised from the sale of the plots of land into the central and local budgets on a proportional basis.

Spokesman, Experts Analyze Structural Decrees

OW0210110092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian president's spokesman, Vyacheslav Kostikov, has called a package of decrees signed today [1 October] by Boris Yeltsin an important step in forming the new structures of Russia's Government. The package includes decrees on the structure of federal executive bodies and on the composition of coordinating and consultative bodies set up by the president.

Russian governmental experts told INTERFAX that rejecting the strict administrative subordination of federal executive bodies, upon which the decrees are based, will in practice increase their efficiency, flexibility, and responsibility, and reduce the number of levels of bureaucracy.

The measures, when implemented, will reduce the number of federal executive bodies to 69, which is 50 fewer than exist at present. "One can expect," one of the experts said, "that the number of officials in the central apparatus will be cut by 2,500 to 3,500." Experts believe this reduction will save money previously spent for the maintenance of the premises and facilities of state bodies.

Nechayev Defends Structural Policy Program

PM0110145792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Commentary by Mikhail Berger: "The Government Elaborates Industrial Policy for 1993"]

[Text] This week the Russian Government intends to examine issues of structural policy elaborated in a special federal program. All the signs suggest that this program, in addition to practical goals, also pursues political tasks. It is supposed to show that it is fruitless to accuse the government of not tackling concrete industrial issues.

Speaking about the federal program at a meeting with journalists, Russian Minister of Economics Andrey Nechayev noted that it clearly defines the priorities of industrial policy. These include the normalization of the position in the fuel and energy complex, including the stabilization of gas extraction, the closure of unproductive pits, and the solution of the range of problems connected with food production.

Anticipating the question that this is all very reminiscent of projects of former years with the same practical-sounding titles (the Food Program, the Energy Program...), Nechayev said that there is a fundamental difference in the current plans. It is proposed to achieve the projected goals not on the basis of centralized investments, but with the aid of incentives and flexible regulation of foreign economic activity, and lowering the reserve requirements for banks that carry out investment activity.

Is should be noted that, with the exception of the reduction of the reserve requirements (that is, the requirements that the commercial banks keep some of their liabilities in the form of cash or Central Bank deposits), the range of means to support priority areas is not distinguished by great novelty. Special conditions were created for individual sectors and enterprises in previous years, too, and so many decisions adopted "by way of exception" that virtually every major plant operated according to its own rules. One would like to hope that the new industrial policy will not degenerate into an "economy of exceptions," although the granting of special rights to individual firms and organizations will have a strong "propaganda impact" for authorities wishing to demonstrate their attention to a specific enterprise and producer. In addition, the idea of supporting priority areas—in effect the basic sectors — aligns the government with the centrists from "Civil Union" and from the political viewpoint could strengthen the cabinet's positions.

The same cannot be said for the government's intention to seek a large-scale revitalization of inefficient enterprises, which cannot engender great enthusiasm among the industrialists who are now acquiring greater clout. Andrey Nechayev voiced the hope that in the near future a bankruptcy law will be adopted on the basis of which

regional and central revitalization commissions will resolve the fate of enterprises which find themselves in dire straits.

A new idea in economic relations with CIS countries could be an accord on the levels of mutual loans for industrial purposes. If customers exceed mutually agreed limits, the question of transferring to the creditor, that is to say the Russian side, ownership rights to this or that property could be examined. True, Nechayev here voiced the hypothesis that, having theoretically agreed to pay in property, debtors are unlikely to do so in practice. Moreover, the legal side of registering such a transfer of ownership rights is not entirely clear.

Concerning such an extremely important section of structural policy as defense expenditure, the economics minister said that next year it could amount to 1.5-1.6 trillion rubles [R]. This is approximately half a billion less than all the departments involved in defense expenditure (except the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Russian Ministry of Security, and certain others) asked for, but more than the R932 billion that will be spent on these same purposes in the current year. However, the level of expenditure in real terms will be maintained at this year's level.

The actual structure of military expenditure will be shifted in favor of scientific and design work, and above all technologies of a dual (military and civilian) purpose, and also expenditure on the social needs of the Army. It is proposed to spend R170 billion (the level this year is R115 billion) strictly on arms purchases, including purchases within the other CIS countries. At the same time Nechayev remarked that the relatively low expenditure on arms in the current year is dictated by the materials having been purchased earlier at the relatively low prices of former years. Allowing for this factor the real growth of arms purchases for next year will not exceed 10 percent. The expected income from arms exports is around $3 billion.

In the sphere of housing construction, housing for people forced to emigrate from the nearby foreign parts (their number could reach 1.5 million people) and for the military have been listed as state priorities.

The most important question arising in connection with the elaboration of the federal program of structural policy lies today perhaps no longer in how far it subscribes to the general policy of reforms, but how much it satisfies Russian industrialists and their lobby in parliament. If it does not, then they will probably do their utmost to be given the opportunity of conducting the state's industrial policy themselves.

Sees Little Hope for Better Future

LD0110155192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1158 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow September 30 TASS—The present-day state of the Russian economy gives little reason for hope that the situation will change for the better in the near future. "Next year, especially during the first six months, production decline will not be stopped. However, according to preliminary estimates, its pace will be reduced to 10 per cent, while prices will grow by 100 per cent," Russian Minister of Economy Andrey Nechayev believes. His opinion is based on the forecast, made by specialists from his ministry.

Responding to the question of ITAR-TASS about the more probable ways of the stabilisation of the situation, Nechayev said that the working out of two important documents had been completed, which deal with the economic situation in 1993. These are the federal programme of structural policy in the economic sphere together with priority directions, as well as a forecast for 1993. They both will be used as a basis for the presidential address to the parliament about the country's budget.

According to Nechayev, the authors of the programme tried to make it as realistic as possible and to outline clearly the priority tasks for the next year. These include, in the first place, the normalisation of the situation in the fuel and energy complex. It is necessary to curb the decline in oil production and to stabilise gas and coal production, thus ensuring a reliable energy supply to life-supporting spheres of the national economy, and to keep on a proper level the revenues coming from the export of energy carriers.

The second priority direction is connected with the solution of the food problem. Nechayev believes that it is not centralised investments, but the sources of financing outside the budget, export tariffs and easy-term credits that should play a key role in it. Tax privileges for some branches of the economy and the introduction of easy-term quotas in provinces for the range of goods, which are under control now, are sure to be important factors too.

"Aside from conversion, the third priority direction will be the creation of a material basis for various communication facilities," Nechayev continued. A major part of this programme is connected with creating material conditions for the normal functioning of the market and the work of foreign companies.

"Of course, it will be difficult to implement the structural policy programme, because the republic does not have enough investment resources. People's savings are not large enough, while foreign investors are in no hurry to invest money in the Russian economy, at least in the forthcoming several months. This is why the most important thing now is to create conditions under which the financial resources of commercial structures, which are large enough, will not be channelled abroad, but will be used in this country. We plan to appeal to the Central Bank to make its requirements to the reservation of resources a bit less strict and to allow to use part of the reserve fund for long-term credits.

At the same time, the Ministry of Economy together with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and the

Customs Committee is going to formulate proposals on the reduction of export tariffs with due account for the priority directions, outlined in the programme. This will be done on condition that the additional resources, obtained in this way, will be used for investment. Speaking about practical steps for the implementation of the programme to be taken soon, Nechayev said that a network of sanation commissions would be created. They will analyse production and financial performance of practically every enterprise, as well as proposals for their reorganisation. The commissions will be created both on the regional and federal levels.

In the opinion of Nechayev, the commissions should start working as soon as possible, because if urgent measures are not taken for the improvement of the performance of industrial enterprises, the problem of mutual non-payment of debts will emerge once again. Now the active credit-oriented issue helped reduce the volume of non- paid debts from 3.2 trillion to 0.6 trillion roubles.

Describing trade and economic relations with CIS member states, Nechayev pointed out that free trade agreements had been drafted for about all the republics. They will delegate the rights to enterprises in full volume. Trade will be carried out in two ways: first, through intergovernmental barter agreements (this type ofrelat reciprocal deliveries from each of the republics, which are stipulated as obligatory. All this will be carried out through the Federal Contract System, which is being created to replace Russia's Ministry of Trade and Material Resources.

Nechayev Program Seeks Economic Predictability

MK0110115292 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Oct 92 p 1

[Report by Ivan Zasurskiy under the "Reform" rubric: "Ministry of Economics Presents Its Program. Basic Aim—Creation of Situation of Predictability in National Economy"]

[Text] "At the present time the Russian Ministry of Economics is organizing the work of ministries, departments, and regions on preparing a federal program of structural economics [as published] for the medium term (through 1995). A decree of the Russian Federation Government on this question (16 September 1992, No. 772) envisages that in the course of this reform enterprises requiring an improvement in economic conditions are to be revealed and targeted programs and investment projects are to be formulated. The proposed federal targeted programs and the targeted resources essential for their implementation will be specified and detailed during this work"—thus concludes an explanatory memorandum by Russian Minister of Economics Andrey Nechayev "On the Draft Federal Program for the Structural Reorganization of the Russian Economy."

Strictly speaking, the document represents not so much a description of the programs and subprograms of an active structural policy, nor even the substantiation of these programs, as an estimate of the outlays on state investment—although the minister himself assures us that the money to fund the projects will not be state money but private money: A number of advantages have been stipulated for organizations that take the path of financing state anticrisis measures, including banks, which are offered a reduction in the level of reserve capital (which is in fact a reduction in the cost of credit). It is possible that commercial banks will also be offered a preferential credit policy—if the reduction in reserve capital fails to produce the desired results.

The program presented in the document is of a medium-term nature and requires budget resources in the order of 1 trillion rubles plus preferential credits (the preferential interest rate is paid for out of the budget). By all appearances the government was unable to act otherwise with regard, for example, to social expenditure (accounting for approximately 80 percent of the total planned state funding investments). Such expenditure includes the "Housing" program. However, in today's political situation the programs of any orientation can be interpreted as social. As can the expenditure on these programs: Because the government either spends the taxpayers' money or it depreciates it, which in principle amounts to the same thing. And the question whether such state investments are justified is already a separate issue.

As a whole the purpose of the program can be defined as the immediate measures to keep the economy of Russia within the bounds of the predictable, since it is becoming evident that there is no possibility today of pursuing an economic stabilization policy. But the creation of some predictability in the situation, in legislative activity, and in government policy makes sense if only because altogether this represents a sort of ersatz-substitute for financial stability—a point of support for private business and investors and, generally, for a certain improvement in the economic climate in Russia.

In one sense the given program is also the government's reply to claims by the opposition, and primarily "Civil Union." The government prefers to waive certain principles but remain in power, because the present cabinet will nevertheless possibly succeed in keeping its priority policy within the bounds of a reasonable and moderate inflation. Herein, incidentally, lies a curious property of the incumbent cabinet: Its positions are so flexible that a change of policy does not at all require a new government.

Chubays Defends Privatization Program

PM0210101592 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 19 Sep 92 p 2

[Article by Anatoliy Chubays, deputy chairman of the Russian Government: "A Chance to Become An Owner"]

[Text] With the transition to a massive privatization program, discussions on the subject show no sign of abating. Politicians, economists, and publicists keep finding more and more new arguments. How well-founded are they? The deputy chairman of the Russian Government expresses his views on the subject.

You get the impression that, as we move toward a national privatization program, gigantic in scale and complexity, we are coming up against an organized disinformation campaign in the press. Statements on the incredible value of privatization checks have been ascribed to me, for example, although I have never made them.

But there is also a plus side to this campaign, as far as I am concerned: It means that the work we have begun affects everyone's interests. For the first time in our history, a real process of transferring ownership from the state to its citizens is underway. Moreover, it is ownership which underpins the entire power base. You may criticize the privatization program and argue with its approaches. It is not ideal: Nothing is ideal in this life. But we have to detach the discussion on the substance of the program from the political discussion. For example, at a recent discussion of the program in the Supreme Soviet, one of the speakers, a professor, made an emotional speech about the injustice whereby his share of property in the form of privatization checks is less than the share of a worker receiving benefits and privileges. Then the floor was taken by the director of the "Trekhgornaya Manufaktura" Factory. These benefits are clearly inadequate as far as workers are concerned and should be increased as part of the privatization program, he said.

The only sensible stand that the government can take in this complex situation is to establish a balance of interests. We must consider the aspirations of all social groups in Russia. However, at a recent Supreme Soviet session, few managed to rise above group interests: The majority of the participants defended their own position.

Nikolay Travkin, for whom I have great respect, could not refrain from political accusations. Nikolay Ilich emotionally exclaimed: Just how long is the government going to turn a blind eye to the reality right under its nose in Moscow Oblast? There should be no competitions or auctions to sell off property in rural areas.

Nikolay Travkin is forcing an open door. Six months ago, our committee prepared a special decree—signed by Boris Yeltsin—which introduces a special procedure for the sale of state property in rural areas. After all, there is no competitive environment in rural areas, and the decree will make it possible to sell property directly to a single buyer. Moreover, realizing that this makes good sense, we proposed that the Supreme Soviet incorporate this provision in the new version of the privatization program. It has done exactly that. This law simply must be known to the head of the Shakhovskiy Rayon administration if he is more than a politician organizing the "Civil Union."

But Nikolay Ilich does not wish to know, and he has spent the last six months publicly demanding what has long been done. I cannot agree with the often advanced theory: Do we need privatization checks if they do not stimulate labor? As far as I am concerned, that is like asking: Do we need pensions if they do not stimulate labor? And what about student grants?

Privatization checks have a quite different purpose. They are a means of giving every citizen access to state property. They are fulfilling this purpose, and the incentive to work is being aroused by other methods. Unfortunately, once again this theory is a political device.

I also cannot agree with the demand to immediately ban the sale of checks. Insisting on this, some conference participants argued in support of their idea that it will destroy the financial system. They also claimed that, if we do not put extra money into circulation, it will be impossible to sell privatization checks anyway. Agreeing with that would mean destroying the financial system of money issue. As our research has shown, there is effective demand among the population. We have no intention of issuing extra money. On the contrary, we are trying to redistribute the demand for checks from other oblasts....

The dominant opinion in the press and in statements by various economists is that the price of privatization checks has been set unfairly low, that the program itself is short-term, and that its only aims are political aims. If the program were to be extended, this would lead to a reduction in the checks' value, which is closely linked to the amount of property being placed on the privatization market by the state. Any measures to delay or to reduce the number of enterprises being privatized would undermine the value of the checks themselves. Academician Leonid Abalkin has proposed linking the checks' value to people's length of service. I will say that there has been a long discussion about this in the State Committee for the Management of State Property, we have studied the question on a practical level, we understand the problem, but, in addition to this, there is a real demand to put the idea into practice.

Would it have been possible to take people's length of service into account? Yes, it would. But this approach would have made implementation of the privatization program trebly difficult. Every citizen would have had to present a document confirming his length of service. It is well known that many people's work record runs into almost a dozen different books. That would necessitate checks and consulting with experts. Then we would have to check out those who had done the checking.... We would have to create a ministry for the distribution of privatization checks, but that would be absurd! We all know that any complication of procedure always leads to

corruption. Weighing up all the options, we reached the conclusion that it would be too dangerous, too complicated.

There have also been observations of a legal nature, with people saying that the law has been broken. I should remind you that we have the Law on Personal Privatization Accounts and Deposits, passed by the Supreme Soviet almost a year ago.

The entire system of checks is based on the presidential decree submitted for discussion by parliament on 14 August. Two weeks later, the discussion period was up and it came into force. There is one point on which I would like to dwell. The main difference, from a legal point of view, between our program and the Law on Deposits is that the latter does not authorize the issuing of checks: Rather it allows every citizen to open another, special deposit account. Analyzing this approach, you reach the conclusion that a second savings bank system is being created, larger than the original. After all, deposit operations will have to be conducted. Hence the second problem: Creating a system of accounting parallel to the existing one. As it is, our banking system is unable to carry out its direct responsibilities at present. Of course we could act according to the law, but that would take at least 18 months and require serious reorganization of the banking system. Our version, on the other hand, envisages a single commitment for the bank: the issuing of checks.

The committee and the government now have the situation in the regions under control, the drawing up of lists is almost complete, and the problems of transporting, storing, and protecting checks have been resolved (18 stages in all). I am confident that we will be able to offer every citizen his privatization check by 31 December. We are pinning great hopes on investment funds, regulations on which will be published in the next few days. Even now, however, about 80 private funds are registered in Russia. They will make the sale of checks possible, even in remote areas of Russia. Lists of people wishing to sell are already being drawn up. We must be well aware that banning private structures from doing this could cost the state billions. We would have to send officials to all four corners of our vast country.

At the moment, 99 percent of enterprises are owned by the state. But as soon as a plant is sold off, it is no longer liable for subsidies. We should abandon the selective strategy whereby we only support state enterprises and no others. This approach will bring the share-selling process to a halt; I hope I am not the only member of government to realize this.

I am fundamentally opposed to revising decisions adopted by the president and the Supreme Soviet. It will lead to us recoiling from the privatization program and all reforms in Russia. The decisions have been made and they must be put into effect. It is extremely important that we are not drawn into fruitless discussions on privatization.

Satisfied With Voucher Distribution

LD0210102092 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] Russian Vice Premier Anatoliy Chubays said he is satisfied with the beginning of the distribution of privatization vouchers. He said it is the most important thing to set the stone rolling, and he promised to do away with technical problems very soon. Speaking on Russian television, Mr. Chubays said that the vouchers would be distributed over a period of three months and that people have no reason to be in a hurry. The privatization voucher to be granted to each citizen, young and old, can buy the shares of industrial enterprises or be exchanged for cash. In some areas the free market price of the voucher has risen above the nominal value of 10,000 rubles.

Opposition Against Proposed Voucher System

OW0210001092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Parliamentary Industrial and Energy Committee has requested that the government provide the Supreme Soviet by October 8th with details of the overall sum which the population is expected to pay in the form of vouchers and to issue state guarantees for privatisation cheques. This was revealed at a Moscow press conference on Thursday [1 October] by a member of the parliamentary opposition bloc "Rossiiskoye Yedinstvo", Vladimir Isakov.

Those who attended the conference claimed that the majority of parliamentary committees were "categorically against voucherisation". Isakov stated in particular that the auxilliary governmental governmental [as received] laws on the implementation of privatisation contradicted the federative treaty, the laws on private property and the privatisation of state and municipal enterprises, and also "encroach on the rights of workers' bodies".

The press conference reported that legal experts from "Rossiiskoye Yedinstvo" had prepared a collection of Articles from various Russian Federation laws which, in Isakov's words, are "nowadays being conveniently forgotten". The collection is entitled "On the rights of workers' bodies during the privatisation of state property".

Currency Market Signals Hyperinflation

LD0110175692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1612 GMT 1 Oct 92

[By BUSINESS-TASS correspondent Vadim Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Oct—The currency market is desperately signalling the danger of a period of hyperinflation beginning in Russia. At today's normal trading-session at the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICE) the

dollar exchange rate again jumped to a record level—309 rubles, which is 55 rubles higher than the level at the last trading-session.

Specialists note that the flight from the devaluing ruble is beginning to take place on a mass scale. The initial demand (69.99 million rubles) has lessened somewhat, but remains hectic, and as before is considerably higher than the supply of hard currency ($26.45 million). Nevertheless, Aleksey Osenmuk, deputy general director of MICE, considers that "the first signs of a lessening in the demand for hard currency have appeared, which is possibly caused by reports of a certain reduction in the level of expansion in the issue of money and supply of credit."

At the same time, Aleksey Mamontov, head of MICE's hard currency market section, noted that as a result of the relatively low exchange rate for the dollar at MICE in comparison with other regions and the cash market, hard currency "is leaving" the exchange. Moreover recently this departure has taken on the nature of a flood. "Apart from this," he stressed, "in such a situation the flow of hard currency into our country in general may fall significantly." Exchange experts also note that the Russian Central Bank is trying to stabilize the situation, but is not able to halt the tidal wave of speculative demand for hard currency, which reflects the inflationary processes in the Russian economy. The BUSINESS-TASS correspondent was told by an informed source in banking circles that for the time being the Russian Central Bank is expressing its readiness to follow its previous practice of establishing a single exchange rate for the ruble involving currency-exchange parity.

Yeltsin Apologizes for Criticism of Krasnodar Official

LD0110155492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin apologized to Vasiliy Dyakonov, head of the administration in Krasnodar kray, for unfounded criticism in a speech at a conference in Cheboksary. As reported by the press service of the head of the kray administration referring to information from the Russian presidential apparatus, facts about sabotage by the Kuban leadership of deliveries of state grain quotas have not been confirmed. This is information from the Nega Agency.

Gorbachev Critical of Current Leadership, Programs

PM0110134192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Oct 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Sergey Guk and Georgiy Ivanov-Smolenskiy:. "'Vulturization,' 'Spectacle,' 'Fiasco'... Former USSR President Does Not Spare the Russian Authorities at a News Conference"]

[Text] "We dare hope that we have done something beneficial for Russia." That was former USSR president Mikhail Gorbachev's modest summary of his trip to Germany.

To aid the reformers of Russia and the CIS the agreement of members of German, French, Italian, U.S., and Japanese business circles to set up an International Economic Council was secured. And to make contacts easier between Eastern and Western businessmen a firm will be founded under the Gorbachev foundation.

The former president used his stay in Germany for educational purposes as well, trying to persuade the industrial and financial elite over there of the necessity for restructuring. The days are gone when you could sign an agreement in Moscow and reckon that it was in the bag. The era of centralizatiomn is in the past. Nowadays you have to get moving, seeking direct links with individual regions and entrepreneurial structures.

Asked about relations with Japan, Mikhail Gorbachev reiterated his view that feelings are running high in both countries because of the [Kuril] islands, a just agreement is unrealistic at the moment for that reason, we have to move toward one another stage by stage until emotions subside, and then tackle the matter. State visits are a delicate matter, very demanding in terms of knowledge and work (if he personally had "dodged" anyone during his stay in Japan, it was his rapturous admirers). "Then Mr. Poltoranin goes, upsets Russia, Japan, and the whole world, and places the president in an awkward position." Gorbachev is sure the "visit will take place and Yeltsin is making the right preparations."

M. Gorbachev's answers to domestic political questions were, as usual of late, pretty critical and sometimes verging on the improper. The former president kept his most stringent views for the areas where he himself, in his day, either made very little progress indeed or did not get anywhere near solving problems. For instance, answering a question about the upcoming privatization, the former USSR president called vouchers a "trick"; "swindling the people, to use Lenin's expression." In his view, Russia needs to "go through a transitional stage with mixed forms of ownership," forms of ownership have to be found "so that those who created the enterprises become their owners." And although Mikhail Sergeyevich had more than enough time to find these forms, he described the upcoming voucherization ironically as "vulturization" and assumed that the present authorities needed it as a delaying tactic, to distract people from the failures in the economy.

Assessing domestic policy as a whole, M. Gorbachev said that it has "failed" and the president, Supreme Soviet, and government "must come up with a new policy." He also said that he was "very disappointed with the president," but as long as the process continues to take place within the context of democratic choice he will support and defend them, despite the many errors.

The former USSR president rated N. Nazarbayev's latest proposals highly and expressed confidence that the processes of federalization among independent states will grow. M. Gorbachev was still bewildered by the fact that the present Russian leadership has failed to invite the first wave of reformers for consultations, thus cultivating "political sectarianism." "They are reluctant to surrender a single leaf of the August victory garland," M. Gorbachev said.

Naturally, the journalists wanted to know what motivated the former president to refuse to appear before the Constitutional Court as a witness in the "CPSU case." M. Gorbachev noted that his position was the same as before: It is a political, not legal, trial.

Asked by IZVESTIYA whether the former president believed that he, as the recent leader of the country and guarantor of the observance of the constitution, irrespective of his view of the nature of the trial, should nevertheless appear in court and set citizens an example of respect for the law, Mikhail Gorbachev replied: "It is not a constitutional court. It is a political trial within the framework of the Constitutional Court. I have on more than one occasion given testimony to investigators in the SCSE [State Committee for the State of Emergency] case and in other cases, I have traveled to meet them, and that is no problem as far as I am concerned. But I will not allow myself to become involved in a spectacle. They will not make me appear. It is a matter of principle as far as I am concerned, and I will not yield an inch on this."

Radio Rossii Views Balance of Power in Cabinet

LD0110044492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Here is how the balance of power in the Cabinet is seen by its most devoted adherents from the coalition for reforms. Lev Ponomarev is at the microphone.

[Ponomarev] There seem to be two factions in the government right now. Let us say, for the sake of argument, one is Gaydar's faction. A number of ministers belong to this faction; well, I am not prepared to give the names of all of them, but the key figures can be named. These are Gaydar, Chubays, Kozyrev. There also seems to be another faction: for example, Chernomyrdin and Industry Minister Titkin. There is also, of course, severe infighting, so to speak, within the government itself over how they see reform. This goes on inside the Supreme Soviet as well.

From my point of view, summing up the results of the session's first week, it can be said that so far our policy appears to be winning.

Official on Russian, CIA Intelligence Policy

OW0110124292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Report by diplomatic correspondents A. Borodin and I. Porshnev; from "Diplomatic Panorama"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Foreign countries have not curtailed their intelligence operations concerning Russia, said Tatiana Samolis, leader of the press center of Russia's intelligence service.

The situation in the CIS countries, in the territory of the former USSR as a whole, is disquieting enough, she told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent. Therefore it's obvious that the interest of foreign intelligence services in what happens here "has not weakened".

There is information that America's Central Intelligence Agency attaches increasingly great importance to the human factor. This means that in its work it will focus on the activity of agents, since intelligence data obtained through satellites "doesn't always give a full picture". "The processes taking place in the former USSR cannot be seen from satellites." Besides, the Americans learn from their experience; when their spy satellites registered the movement of Iraqi troops in the direction of Kuwait's border, it was hard to conclude that this will grow into a war in the Gulf. It's also known that CIA members will now study languages spoken in the former USSR.

As for Russia, it is curtailing its intelligence operations, said T. Samolis. The head of its intelligence service Yevgeniy Primakov has spoken about this clearly enough. According to what he said recently, Russia has shut down 30 of its undercover centers and will reduce the number of its agents by half before the year ends.

With reference to the possibility of ceasing Russian intelligence operations toward NATO countries, T. Samolis drew attention to what E. Primakov said: Intelligence activity concerning Russia should be viewed in a broader context, since it is conducted "in coordination". "If the NATO countries displayed their desire to cease their intelligence operations concerning Russia, we would agree to this on the basis of reciprocity. However this requires corresponding guarantees on the highest political level on both sides," the leader of Russia's intelligence service pointed out.

According to T. Samolis, the mechanics of such a step could be agreed upon. But this isn't what really matters. "If Britain alone ceases its intelligence operations toward Russia, while the USA or, say, Germany, continue them, Russia will still face this problem, since coordination between secret services will remain. Therefore this should involve only a composite approach, a kind of a package taking into account the interests of all the parties concerned," T. Samolis stressed.

According to her, Russia must have a similar approach to the possibility of stopping its intelligence operations toward countries not belonging to NATO. Nevertheless corresponding bilateral agreements concerning some concrete countries cannot be ruled out.

The former USSR did not engage in intelligence operations toward its allies, countries from the former socialist camp, T. Samolis said. There was a governmental resolution signed by I. Stalin on this score. As for the collection of information, at that time there was a quite different system of relations which eliminated all problems, said T. Samolis.

According to T. Samolis, the character of the Russian intelligence service, not only the number of its personnel, is changing. "Russia is making transition to the principle of reasonable sufficiency in this area too." It gave up the ideological foundations and confrontational model on the basis of which it determined its allies and adversaries, which could be detrimental to the country's national interests, and was. Now interference in the policy of other countries or the financing of some political groupings is out of the question.

The changes taking place concern the intelligence service as such, "in any of its shapes", said T. Samolis. It's natural that they relate to both, undercover agents and those who work with a "cover".

When asked whether Russia's intelligence service continues to use journalism as a "cover", she said that the number of Russian journalists used as agents is being reduced. "The process has started, but it cannot be concluded at a stroke. Otherwise all these people will be exposed." And this doesn't answer to Russia's national interests.

To protect these interests is the main task of Russia's intelligence service, T. Samolis pointed out. "As an instrument of foreign policy, the intelligence service contributes to the endeavours to maintain normal life within Russia. It is designed to safeguard the country against the unfavorable development of one event or another outside the country."

Experts Discuss Prevention of Terrorism

PM2909112792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Sep 92 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow. Our Correspondents and News Agencies Report": "Terrorism Seminar"]

[Text] The problems of investigatory work in detecting and preventing terrorist acts are being considered by specialists of the Russian Security Ministry's Urals, Siberia, and Far East services at a seminar in Yekaterinburg.

In the past two years, 300 explosions claiming 100 lives have occurred in Russia in buildings, vehicles, and trains and 70 cases of aerial terrorism have been recorded. Participants in the seminar will analyze the situation and exchange practical work experience.

Status of Anti-Corruption Commission Enhanced

PM0110110992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Sep 92 First Edition p 2

[Report on an ITAR-TASS interview with Mikhail Gurtovoy, senior secretary of the Commission to Combat Corruption: "'Strike Force' Against Corruption"]

[Text] The first session of the Commission to Combat Corruption, which was set up 17 September by a Russian Federation Government ordinance, will analyze oil export operations and criminal cases in the fuel and energy complex. This was stated in an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent by Mikhail Gurtovoy, senior secretary of the commission.

It is well known that prior to the adoption of the Russian Federation Government ordinance on the creation of the Commission to Combat Corruption headed by Yegor Gaydar, Mikhail Gurtovoy had headed the working group of the same name. In the six months of its existence it investigated around 50 cases linked to offenses in economic activity. In particular, the commission as previously constituted demonstrated that Vasiliy Gromyko, deputy health minister, was combining state service with commercial activity, for which he was fired.

Having established that geological information was illegally sold abroad, the working group succeeded in halting this leak of valuable information and recovering around $2.5 million for Russia's coffers. "Even though this is a small sum," Mikhail Gurtovoy explained, "we nonetheless showed the West that we are able to raise the question of conducting civilized business in a legally logical way."

Nonetheless, despite its evident successes, the working group's resources were clearly inadequate, and, as Mikhail Gurtovoy admitted, its operating methods "verged on the amateur."

The government ordinance has given a new status to the Commission to Combat Corruption—it now includes the Russian minister of security, the ministers of foreign economic relations and finance, the first deputy minister of fuel and energy, and other department leaders. This pooling of forces, in Gurtovoy's words, represents a "force that we will use to strike at the solar plexus of corruption."

Acting Russian Premier Yegor Gaydar hopes that the "commission's activity will be concrete and successful, unlike that of many other similar bodies."

The commission will work in conjunction with the Russian president's State Inspectorate and with Supreme Soviet committees and commissions. Mikhail Gurtovoy called its ideology "protecting the reforms from those who are hampering and distorting them."

Government Discusses Post-Chernobyl Cleanup

LD0110172992 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 1 Oct 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Russian Government gave its approval today to an integrated state program to eliminate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. Prior to this, Boris Yeltsin signed a decree setting up a joint stock industrial and agricultural construction corporation to operate in the areas affected by the disaster.

[Correspondent K. Belov] The integrated state program to protect the population of the Russian Federation from the effects of the Chernobyl disaster is calculated for 1993-95 and up to the year 2000. The area contaminated to varying degrees by radioactive substances, primarily cesium-137, covers 55,000 square kilometres. The program envisages a complex of measures for social, economic, ecological, and medical rehabilitation in 14 Russian oblasts and the Republic of Moldova. Particular attention is given to those who took part in work to eliminate the consequences of the disaster, and who received large doses of radiation. There are more than 400,000 such people.

This is a very expensive program, and for this reason Yegor Gaydar suggested learning from the experience of Ukraine and Belarus to introduce a special and temporary Chernobyl tax to finance it.

All in all, the document was described as the first basic program to be compiled without panic. It will now be passed to the Supreme Soviet for endorsement.

The government sitting also examined the issue of financing Russian peasant farms.

Local Disposal of Foreign Nuclear Waste Favored

PM3009135792 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 92 p 3

[K. Belyaninov report: "Where Will the Nuclear Dump Be?"]

[Text] In the very near future Russian nuclear power engineering will be adorned with a whole bundle of laws. A package of documents which is now being examined in Supreme Soviet committees and commissions includes as many as eight drafts—"On the Exploitation of Nuclear Energy," "On Nuclear Weapons," "On Radioactive Waste," and so forth. Deputy Yevgeniy Nesterov, chairman of the working group, seriously believes that only a perfected concept of "nuclear law" will enable a repetition of the Chernobyl catastrophe to be avoided.

However, the package of documents contains one whose contents alarm nuclear scientists. The draft law "On State Policy in the Sphere of Dealing With Radioactive Waste" bans the import and processing on Russian territory of "foreign-made" waste.

"If this article is adopted, we risk losing hundreds of thousands of dollars," Sergey Yermakov, chief of the Ministry of Atomic Power Press Center claims.

In the opinion of the ministry's officials, in addition to nuclear fuel that we have delivered for foreign AES's [nuclear electric power stations] built with our participation and are simply obliged to take back in accordance with international accords, Russia is quite capable of processing "foreign waste."

"This is a gold mine," Yermakov explains. "This waste contains up to 90 percent enriched uranium, 2-3 percent plutonium, and a number of useful isotopes which can still be used. Strictly speaking, only 2 percent is actually waste. And for processing a tonne of spent fuel it is possible to receive no less than $30,000. So add it all up for yourself."

However, even in this event Russia intends to return the processed fuel to the "manufacturers." Although the ministry employee have few hopes for this so far little exploited form of commercial activity: Antinuclear sentiments in the Russian parliament are too strong, in their opinion.

"We will be forced to return to this law time and again to ammend it," Yermakov says. "True, this will not save the situation: "Britain and France are wholeheartedly engaged in similar business, so that in a couple of years there will be no room for Russia on the world fuel-processing market."

Supreme Soviet

Supreme Soviet Publishes Resolutions

Statement on Abkhazia

PM0210100192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Sep 92 First Edition pp 1,2

[Statement No. 3547-1 of the Russian Supreme Soviet in Connection With Events in Abkhazia issued in Moscow on 25 September]

[Text] The situation in Abkhazia is arousing serious concern in the Russian Federation. The introduction of Georgian State Council armed formations into Abkhazia has caused the emergence of a seat of military conflict and deaths.

The accords secured during the summit meeting in Moscow 3 September 1992 laid the foundation for a peaceful civilized settlement of the conflict.

However, it has not as yet proved possible to secure a cease-fire and implement in full the Moscow meeting's accords. Acts of violence against Abkhazia's civilian residents, among them tens of thousands of people with

their ethnic roots in Russia, are continuing in the conflict zone. The flood of refugees to southern Russia has risen considerably. There is also alarm at the involvement in the conflict of paramilitary volunteer detachments formed by national and public movements from a number of republics in the Northern Caucasus, which is causing the violence to spread to Russian territory,

The Russian Supreme Soviet:

condemns the actions of the Georgian leadership, which has attempted to forcibly resolve the complex problems of interethnic relations and asks it to immediately suspend armed operations, withdraw troop formations from Abkhazian territory, and rigorously carry out international human rights pacts;

states the need to further develop the Moscow accords and deems it necessary to immediately hold a meeting of the leaders of Russia, Georgia, Abkhazia, and the republics, krays, and oblasts of the Northern Caucasus to settle the main issue—a cease-fire without any preliminary conditions;

considers that this package of agreements should make provision for the coordinated withdrawal of Georgian State Council Armed Forces from Abkhazian territory and the simultaneous disarmament, disbanding, and removal from Abkhazia of voluntary armed formations and groups from the Northern Caucasus, along with the introduction of a contingent of CIS peacekeeping forces to ensure the safety of the population as well as the stable operation of transport routes and key industrial installations. Only on this basis will it be possible for legitimate organs of power to resume their work in Sukhumi, for refugees to return, and for normal life to start to be established in Abkhazia.

The Russian Supreme Soviet is ready to mediate in resolving these issues.

[Signed] The Russian Supreme Soviet

[Issued in] The Russian House of the Soviets, Moscow, 25 September 1992

Resolution on Abkhazia

PM0210090192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Sep 92 First Edition pp 1,2

[Resolution No. 3548-1 of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet On the Situation in the North Caucasus in Connection with Events in Abkhazia, signed by Chairman R.I. Khasbulatov in Moscow on 25 September]

[Text] In connection with the critical situation in the North Caucasus and the continuing conflict in Abkhazia, the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet **resolves**:

1. To condemn resolutely the actions of the Republic of Georgia leadership, which has used violence to try to settle the complex problems of interethnic relations and to demand that it cease armed actions forthwith, withdraw its military formations from Abkhaz territory, and unswervingly observe human rights.

2. To recognize that the measures taken by the Russian leadership to settle the conflict in Abkhazia have not yet led to the establishment of peace. Despite the demand of the Republic of Adygeya Supreme Soviet and the Krasnodar Kray Soviet and in violation of Articles 108 and 114 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation—Russia—the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Presidium has not convened an extraordinary session of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet. This has served significantly to destabilize the sociopolitical situation in the North Caucasus region.

3. To support the Russian President's initiative on calling a new meeting of the leadership of Russia, Georgia, Abkhazia, and also the republics, krays, and oblasts of the North Caucasus for the purpose of ensuring an unconditional cease-fire in Abkhazia, the development and deepening of the process of the reconciliation of the sides, the stabilization of the situation in the region, and the provision of aid to refugees, as begun at the Moscow meeting of 3 September 1992.

4. To make the following recommendations to the President of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Russian Federation:

To examine the question of the use of the contingent of the Russian Federation Armed Forces as peacemaking forces to ensure the safety of the population and the stable functioning of industry and transport in the demilitarized zone in accordance with the Final Document of the 3 September 1992 Moscow meeting;

to elaborate and implement by 10 October 1992 a set of measures to protect the Russian Federation's interests on the state border in the North Caucasus region; and present for examination by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet proposals on the establishment and protection of the Russian Federation state border;

to halt the transfer to the Republic of Georgia of armaments, combat hardware, and munitions of units and formations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces and end the supply of armaments, combat hardware, and munitions under earlier contracts as well as of components and raw materials for enterprises producing armaments, combat hardware, and munitions; and to desist from concluding economic agreements with Georgia until the settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia;

to continue humanitarian aid to the population in the conflict zone;

to examine the question of giving comprehensive help to ensure the normal functioning of the resort town of Sochi and other border regions.

5. The chairmen of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet chambers have until 10 October 1992 to set up a standing commission of Russian Federation people's

deputies to carry out the day to day study of the situation in the conflict zone as well as to perform mediatory functions.

6. To consider necessary the creation of an international commission to investigate violations of human rights on Abkhaz territory and determine the extent of the material damage inflicted on the population and the national economy and also to assist all refugees to return to Abkhazia and resettle there.

7. The Russian Foreign Ministry and the Russian Defense Ministry are to submit to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet proposals on the status of the Russian Armed Forces on the territory of the former republics of the USSR.

8. The Russian Federation general prosecutor, the Russian Interior Ministry, and the Russian Security Ministry shall take measures to thwart the activity of illegal paramilitary formations on the territory of the North Caucasus.

The Russian Supreme Soviet expresses the hope that all the republics which belonged to the USSR will unfailingly observe the norms of international law enshrined in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Pact on civil and political rights, the Helsinki Final Act, the Paris Charter for a New Europe, and other CSCE documents and urges them to observe human rights and the rights of ethnic minorities.

[Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet

[Issued in] Moscow,

The House of the Russian Soviets

[Dated] 25 September 1992

Deputy Favors Draft Law on Radioactive Waste

PM2909153792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Sep 92 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Radiation Within the Law"]

[Text] The law "On State Policy in the Sphere of Handling Radioactive Waste" will be the first blow intended to breach the vacuum in the use of nuclear energy. In the White House yesterday there were joint hearings on the draft law, which is currently being evaluated in parliamentary committees and commissions and is expected to be submitted for examination by the fifth session of the Supreme Soviet in October, in fact.

Yevgeniy Nesterov, physicist, member of the Supreme Soviet, and chairman of the working group to prepare the draft law, noted that the general economic crisis is dominated by the radiation component. The scientist pointed out that for many years the Soviet leadership tackled defense tasks and economic development problems without giving much thought to people's safety and health. "Even now there are no signs of any fundamental advances in this policy and nuclear energy complex enterprises are continuing to operate in the old way," the deputy said. According to him, the Russian Nuclear Energy Ministry is not particularly concerned about restructuring the enterprises of the military-industrial complex and it remains a monopolist, not allowing any alternative market structures to develop. The scientist stressed that the country will continue to face the threat of further Chernobyls as long as there is no nuclear law blueprint and no law on the use of nuclear energy.

The draft law "On State Policy in the Sphere of Handling Radioactive Waste" was given a high rating during the hearings. This is not suprising when you consider that American specialists were closely involved in its preparation.

International Affairs

Foreign Minister Criticizes CIS Inaction

LD0110213792 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0613 GMT 30 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] United Nations Organisation September 30 TASS—Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko spoke on Tuesday at a press conference, held at the U.N. headquarters. His speech contained criticism against the new Commonwealth. Responding to the question of ITAR-TASS about the stand of the Ukrainian leadership with regard to the CIS, he said that Ukraine continued to be a CIS member and was now preparing for a regular summit, due to be held in Kyrgyzstan on October 9. At the same time, we very much deplore that the CIS resolutions are not being fulfilled.

A total of 150 various resolutions were adopted by the CIS, Zlenko continued. However, no one ever brought up the subject of their fulfilment. In addition, there are no mechanisms, with the help of which they could be put into effect. The head of the Ukrainian delegation said at the session that the CIS was incapable of taking action. If the situation remains as it is, it will be very difficult for the CIS to survive, he pointed out. Of course, this is a problem facing all CIS member states. At the same time, Zlenko pointed out that Ukraine is not among those who come out for the immediate disbandment of the CIS.

Speaking about nuclear weapons on the Ukrainian territory, Zlenko said that they were deployed there on a provisional basis. He recalled that Ukraine had only 176 strategic missiles and added that, in accordance with the resolution of the Ukrainian Parliament, Ukraine announced its non-nuclear status. He pointed to the problems they are facing with the dismantling and elimination of nuclear weapons and make special mention of the financial problem.

The minister said that Ukraine would pay its foreign debts by all means. Its debt amounts to 16.37 per cent of the foreign debt of the former USSR. According to Zlenko, Ukraine is incapable now of meeting its financial commitments with regard to the United Nations to the full. He expressed disagreement with the recent decision of the committee for payments, under which Ukraine's contribution to the U.N. budget will go up by half next year—from 1.18 per cent to 1.87 per cent.

Responding to the question about the Russian-Ukrainian controversy over the Black Sea Fleet, the minister said: "We are acting in line with the Yalta Accords of August 3 and are continually holding talks with Russian representatives. We are trying to find a way to dividing the fleet. I think, we are gradually advancing towards the solution of the problem. The first step in the setting of the Yalta Accords has been made. It deals with the flag of the fleet. [no closing quotation marks as received]

Holds Talks With Kissinger

LD0110214492 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] Leader of Ukraine's delegation at the 47th session of the UN General Assembly, Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko, met with well-known political scientist of the U.S., Henry Kissinger. They discussed a whole range of issues pertaining to international life, bilateral relations and the situation in Ukraine. Henry Kissinger singled out that the public abroad is very interested, in particular, in our relations with Russia. In the view of the former secretary of state, Ukraine, without violating democratic norms and international law, must realize its right in part to property in foreign countries.

Meets Bulgarian Counterpart

LD0110215292 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] On Monday Ukraine's foreign minister, Anatoliy Zlenko, met in New York with the chairman of the 47th session of the UN General Assembly, foreign minister of Bulgaria, Mr. Ganev. In the center of attention of their talks were issues on raising the efficiency of the work of the General Assembly in the context of the restructuring of the entire activity of the United Nations Organization. Ukraine, singled out Anatoliy Zlenko, as one of the founding members of the United Nations Organization, will step up its contribution to the work of the organization and aspire to occupy a place in this body equal to its position as a European state with significant political and economic potential. The ministers also discussed several issues pertaining to bilateral Ukrainian-Bulgarian cooperation.

That same day Anatoliy Zlenko met with the state minister for foreign affairs of India, the foreign ministers of Tunisia and Australia and took part in debates organized by the American TV program "World In Focus."

Envoy Discusses Relations With Russia, Participation in CIS

LD0110155392 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1607 GMT 30 Oct 92

[Text] It has been stated absolutely clearly that good-neighborly, friendly, but equal relations have to develop between Ukraine and Russia. This was stated by Ukrainian Ambassador to Russia Volodymyr Krzhanitskiy in an interview with the Novyny TV and radio agency in response to the speech by Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk at our state's Supreme Soviet session on 30 October.

In particular, Krzhanitskiy responded to the section of the report that addressed relations between Ukraine and Russia. Volodymyr Krzhanitskiy stressed that the development of these ties should not take place at the expense of concessions concerning our sovereignty.

Touching on problems with Ukraine's participation in the CIS, the ambassador noted that the Commonwealth is a necessary instrument in the treaty process between our states but in no way is it a superstructure in these relations. Volodymyr Krzhanitskiy pointed to the uselessness of our republic leaving the Commonwealth.

Defense Ministry Assumes Control of USSR Military Enterprises

LD3009035992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Military enterprises and organizations of the former USSR on the territory of Ukraine have been transferred under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine. A resolution to this effect was issued by the cabinet of ministers of the republic in compliance with the law on enterprises, establishments, and organizations of the former USSR on the territory of Ukraine. This has been reported by the press service of the Ukraine's prime minister.

Party Leader Reports on Visit to NATO Headquarters

LD0210043192 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Interview with Vitaliy Zhuravskyy, chairman of the Christian Democratic Party, by correspondent Anatoliy Tarasenko; date, place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Tarasenko] In totalitarian times, NATO headquarters was called nothing but a den. So who [word indistinct] was taking part in a sortie, so to speak, against it?

[Zhuravskyy] Well, I would not call it a den. Lawyers, economists, political scientists, and journalists were part of our delegation. For the Christian Democratic Party of Ukraine, it was important to find out what NATO is engaged in nowadays. We were interested in hearing NATO's point of view on global problems. Apart from that, we have set a goal in our party's program for Ukraine to become a member of the North Atlantic Assembly.

[Tarasenko] Are we not in a hurry to embrace the former number one enemy?

[Zhuravskyy] We have to discard stereotypes. Until just recently, Europe was divided in two by NATO and Warsaw Pact countries, and all problems were settled according to the position of strength policy. There is no enemy—this is the essence of the new concept of the North Atlantic Assembly.

[Tarasenko] Is there a place for Ukraine within this concept of NATO?

[Zhuravskyy] You see, for Ukraine to become a member of NATO, a number of conditions have to be fulfilled. First, it has to become a democratic state, that is, the parliament has to be elected democratically and on the basis of a multiparty system. The second condition is control over armaments and so forth.

[Tarasenko] What, in your opinion and that of your party, will Ukraine gain from rapprochement with NATO and from possibly joining this organization?

[Zhuravskyy] It will gain additional and large funds for economic reform in Ukraine. Apart from that, Ukraine is interested not in arming itself but in spending the bulk of its funds on the economy. Ukraine, according to its geopolitical situation, cannot be neutral. Our party stands for a non-nuclear Ukraine, not for a neutral one. Above all, NATO is a political organization, and today, as I have already said, it proceeds from the new concept—there is no enemy. We have to change the stereotypes of NATO as a hostile organization as perceived by the average Ukrainian. [passage omitted: Zhuravskyy on NATO role]

[Tarasenko] Vitaliy, what was their attitude toward Ukraine?

[Zhuravskyy] NATO trusts the Ukrainian people.

[Tarasenko] Well, that is not bad. What guarantees do we have that we will not be fooled again?

[Zhuravskyy] We have to familiarize ourselves with the working structure and discard stereotypes we harbored.

[Tarasenko] Well, thank you for your remarks. To conclude, I want to ask: is this visit going to just be put down as some kind of entertainment, or has it borne any practical results, in addition to providing general information?

[Zhuravskyy] You always ask difficult questions, but I am ready to answer—in the first place, it is direct contact; second, thanks to this visit, a preliminary agreement has been reached on 10 Ukrainian officers acquiring practical experience in NATO.

[Tarasenko] As far as I am concerned, that is a success, and I wish your party fruitful work.

[Zhuravskyy] Thank you.

Council of Europe Assembly Grants Ukraine Guest Status

LD0110215992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Excerpt] A briefing for Ukrainian and foreign journalists took place today at the press center of Ukraine's Foreign Ministry. It was reported here that the Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe decided to grant a status of special guest to the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine. A corresponding letter was sent to the Ukrainian Parliament by the assembly's secretary, deputy secretary general of the Council of Europe, Heinrich Klebes [name as heard]. The Supreme Soviet of Ukraine has received an invitation to the upcoming

sitting of the Parliamentary Assembly, which will take place in Strasbourg from 30 September to 7 October. [passage omitted]

PRC Delegation Completes Justice Ministry Work

LD0110170792 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 0100 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] The press group of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine announced the completion today of the work in this establishment of a delegation from China. The delegation was made up of staff members of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, Supreme Court, and Ministry of Justice of the People's Republic of China. Jointly with lawmakers of Ukraine, a bilateral expert group drew up a draft agreement on legal assistance. The signing of this document is planned during the upcoming official visit of Ukraine's president, Leonid Kravchuk, to China.

Official Signs Protocol on Laos Relations

WS3009162292 Kiev KHRESHATIK in Ukrainian 22 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] Laos is the 94th country with which Ukraine has reestablished diplomatic relations. Mikola Makarevich, vice foreign minister of Ukraine, and Keola Suktkhavon [name as transliterated], Laotian ambassador in Ukraine, signed a protocol on diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Views were exchanged on the current economic and political situation in both countries and on the possibilities for development of mutually beneficial bilateral relations. The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

National Affairs

Supreme Soviet Votes No Confidence in Cabinet

LD0210105392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1025 GMT 2 Oct 92

[By UKRINFORM for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 2 Oct—In connection with the release of Vitold Fokin from his duties as Ukrainian prime minister, the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet adopted a decision expressing no confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers as a whole, which, in accordance with Article 117 of Ukraine's Constitution, entails its resignation. The Ukrainian president has been advised to instruct the members of the present government to discharge the duties incumbent upon them pending the appointment of a new cabinet and, within 10 days, to propose for consideration by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet a candidate for the post of Ukrainian prime minister.

Kravchuk on Need for New Premier, Russian Ties

OW0110160592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Speaking in parliament today, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk stressed the necessity to find a candidate to the post of Prime Minister within a fortnight.

He also said draft agreements with Russia on monetary relations and documents concerning the introduction of a Ukrainian national currency are ready. The agreements will be signed during acting Russian Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar's visit to Kiev this Saturday.

Kravchuk told parliament he was going to maintain "friendly relations of partnership" with Russia. "Divergence from Russia is impossible both from the economic and the political standpoint," he said.

Parliament Speaker Views Constitutional Issues

LD0210095492 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 1410 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Kiev, (UKRINFORM)—"The president holds that, according to the constitution, he has no right to make the whole government resign; this can only be done by the Supreme Soviet. I think that it (the Supreme Soviet) should do it, but I do not know what will happen," Ivan Plyushch, head of the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine, stated on the eve of the resumption of plenary sittings of the Sixth Session of the Ukrainian parliament which will open on 30 September.

In an interview for the newspaper HOLOS UKRAINY, the speaker of the Ukrainian parliament described the situation which has developed within the power structures as legal nonsense: part of the exclusive powers of parliament, as defined by the constitution, and in particular decisionmaking on the issues of state order of Ukraine and defining the order of organization and activities of bodies of state executive power, is also under the president's jurisdiction.

In the speaker's opinion, it would be fine if those issues were solved with accord and mutual understanding. "But if it often happens that the president must do everything. He might even have to create some unknown state duma and then assign to it some unknown authorities; then we would be heading for an unknown outcome," Ivan Plyushch stated. He sharply criticized the duma, stressing that "the duma under the president is not the duma of Ukraine; the president's advisers are his alone and not those of the state."

At the same time Ivan Plyushch emphasized that this situation does not mean a confrontation with Kravchuk. "It is not confrontation but principled relations, since someone in the presidential structures wants to see only one function of the Supreme Soviet - legislative - thus ignoring parliamentary control and its founding function."

Viewing relations between parliament and the government, Ivan Plyushch believed that the action plan worked out by the government need not be submitted to the Supreme Soviet. Since there is nothing binding in that discussion, the parliament can only take it into consideration. Efforts to submit that plan to the session, according to the speaker, are further evidence of the executive branch's desire to shift responsibility to the Supreme Soviet, to bind the parliament to it, and to finish what has already been achieved today. "All the pickets are now heading for the Supreme Soviet; the government is only mentioned in slogans demanding its resignation.

"We have trusted the government for too long and it was our mistake," the head of the Supreme Soviet of Ukraine said. Ivan Plyushch expressed concern at the current situation when change in the government and dissolution of the parliament are on the same [word indistinct] and said that this could lead to a constitutional crisis. As for the future of the parliament, Ivan Plyushch does not believe that the Supreme Soviet must work for a full five years, but it should complete the formation of a package of laws on economic reforms and adopt the new constitution, without which it will be impossible to adopt a new election law.

Moreover, the head of the Supreme Soviet does not share the opinion of the president that the new constitution must be adopted by the whole nation. "This would be a direct violation of the current constitution; it would have to be altered. If this happens and the new constitution is adopted at a referendum," Ivan Plyushch stressed, "then all changes, even minor ones, will have to be put to a referendum. That is difficult to imagine."

As for collecting signatures on early discontinuation of the powers of the Supreme Soviet, Ivan Plyushch underlined that this does not concern him too much. "I am concerned that money and energy will be expended, but the action itself will not result in anything good. I do not dismiss political action itself - collection of signatures for a referendum - because there are different ways of pressuring the authorities," concluded the head of the Supreme Soviet.

Cabinet Extends Decree on Bread Prices

AU0110141492 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers has issued a decree extending, until 1 January 1993 the validity of item 1 in the decree, issued 30 June 1992, "On Introducing Changes Into the System of Regulation of Prices of Foodstuffs." In accordance with the decree, a limiting coefficient of three must be used for raising the prices of some types of bread and bread products to those in effect in 1992.

Donetsk Miners Prepare To Picket Supreme Soviet

LD0110132392 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] The general directors of coal mining associations in Ukraine have appealed to the Supreme Soviet, calling on parliamentarians to do constructive work and to maintain the current government line during the existing complicated economic situation. Supreme Soviet deputies, says the appeal, must render carte blanche support to Vitold Fokin. We are deeply convinced that only under such circumstances will it be possible to preserve a steady course toward radical economic transformations.

Despite the appeal, 20 buses carrying miners left Donetsk today for Kiev to picket the Supreme Soviet for a week.

[Correspondent] Participating in this action are miners from Donetsk, Dzerzhinsk, Yenakiyevo, and Gorlovka. Their trip has been organized by the working committee and the independent trade union of Donetsk miners. As you see, the level of representation is prestigious. New Ikarus buses and drivers from the oblast auto association were hired. This trip, as Volynko, head of the independent trade union of Donetsk miners, told me, will cost the mines 2 million rubles.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] This action—is it directed at helping our young state in building an independent Ukraine?

[Volynko] Although we are going in the same convoy, we have different opinions. For example, I believe that there is only one correct issue. It is to stop the economic diversion so that....

[Correspondent, interrupting] Whose? Who is creating this diversion?

[Volynko] The economic diversion is spontaneous. Nobody is directing it. For example, in one enterprise we deliver coal but are not paid for it. We are campaigning so that we can deliver our coal and then money will be transferred to our account on time, so that we can pay wages and provide for ourselves materially, so that we will have what unfortunately we do not yet have at the mine.

[Correspondent] Do you have political demands?

[Volynko] I know there are political demands, but in my view they are not needed now. Confrontation would only block get in the way. [end recording]

Work Collectives Appeal for United Leadership

LD0110141692 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Our editorial office has received an appeal from 13 Kiev work collectives to the Supreme Soviet of

Ukraine. Having analyzed the socioeconomic and political situation in Ukraine, the authors of the appeal put forward a number of demands, among which there is in particular a call to overcome the artificial gap between the bodies of representative and executive power at all levels. But the principal demand is for unity of actions by the Supreme Soviet, the president, and the cabinet so as not to allow unnecessary and dangerous confrontation between political leaders.

Commission To Coordinate Closure of Chernobyl

AU0110142092 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has issued a directive on creating a group of experts to deal with the preparation of drafts of interstate agreements on legal assistance.

The Cabinet of Ministers has decided to create a government commission to coordinate the actions of enterprises and organizations to deal with the safe shutdown of the Chernobyl Atomic Electric Power Plant. Ukraine's First Vice Prime Minister Masyk has been appointed head of the commission.

Industrialist Views Impact of Oil Price Hike

AU0110132192 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 22 Sep 92 p 2

[Interview with Mykola Olefir, vice president of the "Ukrnaftokhim" Company, by L. Dayen: "Oil Kings Can Do Everything"]

[Text] This has long been in the air. The leaders of Russia did not conceal their plans raise oil and petroleum products prices. In a pretense of caring about village laborers, they put it off until after the harvest. Therefore, it might appear that there would be no element of surprise in this economic collision. Notwithstanding this, the edict of Russia's president came like a bolt from the blue. The news shocked the public. This is all the more true since an increase in energy prices will, like a chain reaction, trigger price increases for all goods and foodstuffs. According to estimates by independent experts, prices will jump by a factor of about one and one-half in the near future.

[Dayen] How did the Ukrainian oil-refining workers perceive the Russian president's edict?

[Olefir] We knew that this would happen, but this knowledge did not give us any relief. The point is that, even before, we were paying between 4,000 and 6,000 rubles [R] and sometimes even R7,000 for one tonne of Tyumen oil, not the R2,000 or R3,000 that Russian enterprises were paying. We were paying almost two or three times their price. Now we have a new price hike.

[Dayen] How much will Ukraine have to pay for one tonne of oil?

[Olefir] It is too early to quote the ultimate price, all the more so since the market will regulate it and will depend upon many circumstances. I believe that the price may be up to R10,000. Even a we speak, a delegation of Ukrainian oil-refining workers headed by Mykola Notsek, first vice president of "Ukrnaftokhim," is visiting the Tyumen Oblast; that is where representatives of the Lysychansk, Kremenchuk, Kherson, and Drohobych oil refineries are conducting business negotiations on conditions for oil deliveries to Ukrainian enterprises.

[Dayen] How much oil does Ukraine refine in one year?

[Olefir] Our capacity makes it possible to refine 62 million tonnes. It used to be this amount. This year, unfortunately, it will barely exceed 35 million tonnes. There is not enough oil.

[Dayen] How much do Ukrainian oil workers produce?

[Olefir] Just 3.5 to 4 million tonnes. This is one-tenth of what we currently consume.

[Dayen] Perhaps, Mykola Oleksiyovych, the problem of deep oil processing is particularly topical today. We are a long way behind developed countries in this respect, are we not?

[Olefir] This is correct. The depth of oil processing [the ratio of the finished product to the original crude] in Lysychansk and Kremenchuk is presently between 55 and 60 percent. We are planning to do some restructuring there in order to raise this ratio to 90 percent. This must be done by 1997 or 1998. Then it will be possible to reduce consumption of oil and obtain more benzene from it. But we need currency for importing equipment or alternatively metal and sugar for barter trade.

[Dayen] What about the price of benzene?

[Olefir] If today's per liter price is between R15 and R20, this figure could double. It might reach R30 or R35.

[Dayen] The Russian president's edict reaches into the pockets of tens of millions of people in sovereign Ukraine. Is this right?

[Olefir] It is true. However, bear in mind the fact that a tonne of oil is even more expensive on the world market, between $120 and $140.

[Dayen] Yes, but in those countries, people earn dollars and not coupons. For example, in the United States, people earn $2,000 a month each. Compare this to our wages.

[Olefir] It is difficult to argue with this point.

Crimean Republicans Announce Disbandment

LD0210041192 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] The leaders of the Republican Movement of Crimea evaluated the Crimean Supreme Council's additions and amendments to the republic's constitution as a defeat for the Republican Movement. It is now recorded in the first article of the constitution that Crimea is a legal, democratic, and secular state within Ukraine. But this contradicts the aims of the Republican Movement of Crimea, which is striving for full independence. From now on, the activities of the movement could be interpreted as encroachments on the territorial integrity of Ukraine and come under the article of the relevant law.

This is contained within a message from the Republican Movement of Crimea to the inhabitants of Crimea, in which it announces the end of its activity. This does not mean that the movement's activists are leaving the arena of political struggle. They will most probably set up a society for the defense of national minorities to be named the Russian-Speaking Movement of Crimea.

Belarus

Officials Sign Agreements With U.S. on Nonproliferation

OW0210103892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0845 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Report by prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Belarusian and U.S. officials have initialed in Minsk an agreement between the two countries entitled On the Elimination of the Consequences of Accidents and the Prevention of the Spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The document is in line with Belarus's military doctrine, considered at yesterday's meeting of the republic's Security Council chaired by Stanislav Shushkevich, and provides for U.S. financial and technical assistance in the removal of strategic nuclear weapons stationed in Belarus to Russia.

The document, the text of which IF [INTERFAX] has received today, exempts U.S. military aircraft carrying various kinds of equipment from Belarusian customs. Belarus also pledges not to sue the USA for any damage to Belarusian property or the death or injury of Belarusian personnel which America's activity stipulated by the agreement may cause. Third parties' suits against the USA will be handled by Belarus.

Simultaneously another agreement was initialed in Minsk, that on assistance in the restoration of export control systems in order to prevent the spread of mass destruction weapons. The document provides for U.S. material, technical, personnel training, and other assistance to Belarus worth $1m [million].

According to our information, Aleksandr Yegorov, the Belarusian Defense Ministry official who initialed the documents on behalf of Belarus, may be appointed Shushkevich's chief military adviser.

Government Places New Restrictions on Exports

WS0110131792 Minsk BELINFORM in Russian 1532 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] The Belarusian Council of Ministers has once again introduced strong restrictions on the export of Belarusian goods. In fact, the new resolution "On Improvement of Foreign Economic Activity" prohibits all barter deals with a great number of goods. The list of goods, occupying 10 lines of text in the resolution, includes: "inorganic chemistry products, combinations of precious and rare earth metals, organic chemistry compounds, mineral fertilizers, nonferrous metals and nonferrous metal articles, oil processing products, wood and wood articles, textiles, ferrous metals, and ferrous metal articles".

A special government commission has been formed which may permit the export of some of these goods in some exceptional cases. Violators will be fined or subjected to administrative measures, such as denying them export licenses.

The export restrictions came into force on 25 September. In order to make enterprise managers more compliant, the government promised to introduce some privileges to protect their hard currency profits since January 1993. Hard currency taxes will include 10 percent of contract price, except on expenses for transportation and goods insurance. Enterprises will have to pay only 20 percent of hard currency profits to the state hard currency fund.

New Russian Envoy Describes Agenda for Negotiations

WS0110132092 Minsk BELINFORM in Russian 1532 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Igor Saprykin, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Russia in Belarus, declared that Russia wishes not only to preserve but also to increase historic ties between the Russian and Belarusian states on the basis of [words indistinct]. Today he presented his credentials to Stanislav Shushkevich, head of the Belarus parliament.

"The Belarusian side has already signed 23 documents. Most of them are economic agreements, two documents concern military affairs, and two more are devoted to questions of property. We are currently working on a new packet of documents on humanitarian and legal issues. We will have to discuss the problems of guarding the borders with the non-CIS countries; possibilities for cooperation in the fields of education, science, and technology; and efforts to eliminate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. This year, Russia allotted 7.5 billion rubles to Belarus to help Chernobyl victims. We will also help Belarus in the future", Igor Saprykin said in an interview to the BELINFORM news agency after the solemn ceremony of presenting credentials.

Moldova

Prime Minister Says U.S. Grain Credits Cover Shortfall

LD0110175892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1236 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau September 29 TASS—A credit line has been opened today for the use of the 10 million dollars granted by the United States to Moldova for purchases of American grain. Agreement on this was reached during last week's visit paid to the United States by Moldovan Prime Minister Andrey Sangheli.

Upon returning from his trip, Sangheli said that this aid would allow the republic to plug somewhat the gap

caused by this year's severe drought and to hold out until the next harvest. The grain will be delivered to the republic after its suppliers are determined in the course of an auction that is to be arranged by the U.S. Department for Agriculture. The first load of maize, amounting to about 35,000 tonnes, is to reach Moldova already this October. The rest will be delivered in November.

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly

LD0210103392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0244 GMT 2 Oct 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Excerpt] United Nations, 2 Oct—[Passage omitted: Summary of speech by the Israeli foreign minister] Nikolay Tiu, Moldova's foreign minister, in his address to the 47th session of the UN General Assembly, said that having declared its independence, the republic has set itself the goal "of progressing toward a social structure corresponding to humanity's highest standards." He said that 1991 had been marked by the formation of independent states, heterogeneous from the sociopolitical and economic point of view, on the territory of the former Soviet Union. Each of them is approaching a market economy by a route of its own. Therefore, the support of the international community should be granted in such a way that specific conditions in each of the newly formed states are taken into account. Only when the UN's efforts correspond with socioeconomic programs in those countries will its efforts to support reforms yield positive results.

The conflict that has flared up in the eastern part of the Republic of Moldova is a serious obstacle to reform, N. Tiu stressed. Reactionary forces "have unleashed a war against Moldova's territorial integrity, the purpose of which is to separate it from the left bank of the Dniester." Moldova believes that the conflict should be settled "on the regional level, with active participation by the United Nations."

It was pointed out that Moldova had signed an agreement with Russia on the principles of a peaceful settlement of the armed conflict, "in the spirit of compromise." "This agreement has had a certain positive effect. A cease-fire was reached, the armed forces involved in the conflict were disengaged, and the presence of peacekeeping forces was ensured," the minister said. The minister pointed out that "the situation remains tense; attempts to split the Moldovan territory continue."

Moldova calls for "permanent UN observers in the republic." The minister also appealed to the UN Organization "to help solve the issue of withdrawing the 14th Army, which is under Russia's jurisdiction, from Moldovan territory."

Snegur Meets Gagauz Ethnics; Says Federation Impossible

AU0110185292 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1747 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 1/10/1992—Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova, met Thursday, October 1, with representatives of the local authorities of the southern districts of the republic, with Gagauz population.

Referring to the social-political developments in the area, Mircea Snegur underlined that a peaceful solution was the centerpiece of the policy promoted by the current government of national reconciliation. He also showed that it was impossible for Moldova to become a federal republic, for both historical and political reasons. Mr. Snegur stressed that the district concerned could have great economic and cultural benefits as part of a unique, indivisible Moldova.

President Believes Constitution Must Guarantee Reforms

OW0110155892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Moldovan president Mircea Snegur considers that the new Constitution must serve as a guarantee for the reforms taking place in the republic. The draft of the constitution has been submitted to parliament and, after its discussion at an autumn session, will be offered for public debate and then referendum.

Snegur told the Hungarian independent news agency "Progress-Vostok" that the republic's current government was broadening political, economic and cultural links with Romania and was "decisively removing the artificially created barriers of the past".

Regarding the unification of Moldova and Romania, Snegur said that 98% of the electorate had pledged its backing for his programme of independence for Moldova. "This is a choice for the people", he said, "and no one has the right to conduct state policies which contradict its will". He also pointed out that an independent Moldova complied with the interests of all of its neighbours, including Romania.

Regarding a regular Moldovan armed forces, Snegur said that a national army is in the process of being formed. Here he pointed out that in the long term, Moldova would become a de-militarised zone in a peaceful Europe in order to utilize its potential for peace-promoting aims.

Government Approves Draft State Privatization Program

OW0210000992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Moldovan government at its last session on Wednesday approved the draft state privatisation programme. The draft will be submitted to an autumn session of parliament for the approval of parliament itself.

Privatisation would begin in 1993, according to the programme. Around half of the total state property would be privatised within a two-year period. The privatisation would be implemented using national wealth bonds which would be issued to all citizens of the republic according to length of employment service.

The draft budget for the second half of 1992 was also discussed at the session. It was admitted that the budget for the year so far was extraordinary in character and would remain such until the end of the year.

Regarding the economic difficulties faced by the republic, Vice-Premier Valentin Kunyev pointed out an overall 35-50% slump in manufacturing. Manufacturing had not reached its targets due to the breakdown in economic links and social and political problems. Manufacturers are making far less profit than they should have done and they are unable to make the appropriate deductions for the state budget.

In Kunyev's opinion, a concret budget would not be approved at the next session of parliament, and all current assignations would be realised in accordance with readily available finances and at the expense of different credits.

Finance Minister Claims Budget Deficit at Critical Level

AU0110120592 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1002 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] Chisinau, ROMPRES, 1/10/1992—The finance minister of the Republic of Moldova told the government on September 30, 1992 that the budget revenues registered in the first half of the ongoing year were of about 17 billion rubles and expenses 21.7 billion rubles which means that the budget deficit has reached a "critical level."

On the same occasion it was assessed that the deficit would increase in the second half of 1993 by 15 billion rubles as a consequence of the armed conflict in Transdniesteria and of the summer drought.

According to preliminary forecasts next year the budget deficit might reach the 32 billion ruble mark, MOLDOVA PRES reports.

126 Billion Rubles Needed To Pay New Oil Prices

LD0210092992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0723 GMT 2 Oct 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Fyodor Angeli]

[Text] Chisinau October 2 TASS—Moldova will need to find additional 126 billion roubles, which is more than half of its GNP [gross national product], in order to cover the expenses of oil exports from Russia following the recent increase in oil prices in Russia, Andrey Dyakonu, Moldovan deputy minister of economics, said.

In an interview with the newspaper NEZAVISIMAYA MOLDOVA (INDEPENDENT MOLDOVA) published on Friday, Dyakonu said the price rise in Russia complicates economic forecasting in Moldova for 1993. The situation is also being compounded by the lack of information from the break-away Dniester Republic, the deputy minister said.

Dniester Drafts Youth for Compulsory Military Service

LD2509083092 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0500 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] Igor Smirnov, president of the Dniester region, has issued a decree calling up youths for compulsory military service in the Dniester region's armed forces and internal troops.

Dniester Region Opening Customs Posts on Borders

AU0110150292 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 24 Sep 92 p 5

[Commentary by Svitlana Chala: "Customs Posts on Roads Through the Dniester Region"]

[Text] While the leadership of Moldova is preparing to discuss the special status of the republic's eastern areas, life in the Dniester region is taking its own course. Power structures are being consecutively created: the procurator's office, the court, and the army. The civil aviation administration and the "Fund for the Development of Aviation" were recently created. According to the leadership of the region, if Ukraine allows its airspace to be used, Dniester residents will be able to fly to Odessa, Moscow, and Krasnodar. For the time being, one route has been opened—Kamyanka, near the border with Ukraine.

Airlines are not the only innovation in the Dniester region. The leadership of the region has adopted a decision to introduce customs control on the roads. Customs posts will function at the borders with Ukraine and the Moldovan right bank region. As explained by the local administration, this is being done to restrict the removal of goods, especially foodstuffs, from the territory of the region. Incidentally, prices of foodstuffs in Tiraspol, Dubossary, and other left bank towns are much lower than in Chisinau and in Odessa Oblast. That is why foodstuffs, including wheat, are being taken away from there, and the Dniester region has to import wheat from other regions.

It is quite possible that border guards will stand next to customs officers at border control posts. A regional border guards detachment has already been created, said G. Shevtsov, chief of the Dniester Region's Security Service. The border guards will begin their service as soon as the Dniester authorities issue a special decision. It is therefore possible that residents of Moldova will soon start paying customs duty. It looks like Tiraspol is erecting a barrier with Chisinau.

Combatants Congress Issues Popular Appeal

AU0210104392 Chisinau Radio Chisinau Network in Romanian 2100 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Appeal to the citizens of Moldova adopted by the first congress of the Combatants Movement of Moldova in Chisinau; date not given]

[Text] We, the delegations to the first congress of the combatants' movement, who are participating in the struggle to defend the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, being aware of the difficult times which our country is going through today, and bearing in mind the danger that is threatening the democratic achievements of the national liberation movement, call on all citizens of the republic, irrespective of ethnic origin and social status, to unite efforts in the struggle for democracy and national and cultural rebirth and to actively contribute to the economic prosperity of our sorely-tried country, to combating crime and corruption, and to reestablishing law and order and the sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova throughout its territory.

We call on the population of the republic to take special care of those who suffered from outright military aggression against our state by neo-Bolshevik and pro-imperial forces and the units of the 14th Army of the Russian Federation. We demand that state bodies consistently apply the measures for social protection for participants in the struggle to defend the integrity of the Republic of Moldova and on granting assistance to families that suffered.

We vehemently condemn separatist actions aimed at constantly undermining and splitting the territory of the Republic of Moldova; we condemn the genocide of the native population in the eastern rayons of the republic and demand that the leadership of our state take all necessary measures to curb these crimes.

We express solidarity with the struggle of teachers, parents, and children in the eastern rayons of the republic for their legitimate rights, namely to learn their mother tongue and the Latin alphabet in which it is written. We call on the entire population and all state power bodies to fully support them.

We have and continue to advocate a lasting peace, the only guarantor of our prosperity. But we are and always will be ready if need be to rise, arms in hand, to defend our right as free citizens in the land inherited from our ancestors.

We respectfully bow to the memory of our brothers who fell in the struggle for the integrity of the republic, for freedom, and for our right to the future. Our nation will always remember them.

We ask the leadership of the Republic of Moldova to take measures to make it possible again to receive the national radio and (?television) programs throughout the Dniester region.

We demand the unconditional withdrawal of the 14th Army from the territory of the Republic of Moldova. We demand that the military units of the Russian Federation within the peacekeeping forces be urgently withdrawn from Moldova's territory and that their positions be entrusted to the local constitutional bodies and to the military forces of the United Nations.

60% of Ethnic Russians Want To Leave Republic

OW2609012592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Sixty percent of Russian-speaking citizens are ready to leave Moldova because of the republic's nationalistic tension, according to a poll conducted by the sociological group of the Moldovan Academy of Sciences. The poll results were reported by the Trans-Dniester news agency OLVIA PRESS.

According to sociologists, those leaving Moldova in the first half of the year were 32% Russian, 26% Moldovan and 22% Ukrainian.

Bessarabians Criticize Romanian President Iliescu

AU0210112392 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 25 Sep 92 p 12

[Article by Mihai Vicol: "The Bessarabian Romanians Do Not Believe in Mr. Ion Iliescu"]

[Text] The Romanian ethnic population in Bessarabia generally thinks that a victory for the Democratic National Salvation Front [FDSN] and its political satellites in the Romanian elections would set back national reunification.

Here are some opinions from people living in Chisinau concerning presidential candidate Ion Iliescu: N.B., teacher: "A former Communist is unable to rewrite history. He will go on expressing himself in his customary dull style, and he will keep using the institutions that have formed his personality. If the population living on the right bank of the River Prut elects him, Romania will find itself decades away from Europe"; A.C., physician: "During the time Mr. Iliescu was in office, a little over two years, he proved his unacceptable political dilettantism and developed unacceptably close ties with Moscow until Gorbachev was in power. If he is trying to be an enlightened leader then let him go to China or North Korea, because Romanians do not need him

around any more"; I.K., engineer: "He cannot be the symbol of our nation's reunification because he suffers from a severe inferiority complex with respect to true democracy"; G.P., volunteer fighter from the village of Varnita: "Mr. Iliescu does not care a bit for the Bessarabian people. I have heard him speaking on Radio Bucharest, and I realize that his affection for us is merely an electoral stratagem. If Romanians on the other bank of the Prut elect him, this would be tantamount to turning their backs on us"; I.D., volunteer fighter: "If I were in Mr. Iliescu's shoes I would resign before it is too late. He represents nothing but a overall neocommunist adventure for Romania"; N.R., nurse: "Over the past two years, Mr. Iliescu has moved closer to the Asiatic model. The split between the FDSN and the FSN [National Salvation Front] is a KGB-type diversion, because in fact there has never been any rift between those two groupings"; V.B., unemployed: "The case of Ion Iliescu is quite clear: If he wins I will know that God has turned his back on the Romanians"; I.N., student aged 18: "I have been to Romania several times so I know who Ion Iliescu really is. I have also found out that if he continues in office the youth will fall victim to their parents' mistakes"; N.B., housewife: "May that person win who goes to the trouble of descending to our level; Iliescu is a hypocrite"; R.I., saleswoman at news stand: "Mr. Iliescu is an ideological conjurer; he is an enemy of his own people."

Esteemed readers, I leave it to you to come to the right conclusions.

Kazakhstan

Government, Finland Sign Economic, Investment Pacts

LD0110194992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1444 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By KAZTAG correspondent Ivan Zakharchenko for TASS]

[Text] Alma-Ata September 29 TASS—Agreements on commercial and economic cooperation, on the encouragement and mutual protection of investment were signed by Kazakhstan Premier Sergey Tereshchenko and Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen. The agreements were concluded during Finnish president Mauno Koivisto's visit to Kazakhstan.

The presidents delivered statements after the documents were signed. They expressed full satisfaction with the negotiations results, stressing that the agreements reached are based on the principles of the United Nations and CSCE and create an effective foundation for mutually-advantageous cooperation.

During a news conference Nazarbayev was asked about Kazakhstan's stand regarding the ensurance of international security.

The president said in answer that Kazakhstan's initiative for convening a conference on confidence-building in Asia had been supported at the Ashgabat meeting of leaders of eight coutries, including Pakistan, Iran and Turkey.

This problem is now being worked out on diplomatic channels with Russia, China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

If this organ is instituted, Nazarbayev believes it will exert a positive influence on the improvement of the international situation in Asia. Combining efforts with CSCE, it can play an active role in stabilising the world situation. The matter is expected to be raised again at a regular meeting of heads of Asian states planned to be held in Instanbul on October 30.

The Finnish president and his party are to fly to the south Kazakhstan region on Wednesday [30 September].

IMF Chief Optimistic About Success of Reforms

OW0210112092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0829 GMT 02 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] While all republics of the former USSR were faced with more or less the same difficulties in their bid to emerge from crisis and create a market economy, Kazakhstan has come out as the republic with the best chance of seeing its reform programme through. This was the conclusion reached by acting head of the International Monetary Fund Michel Camdessus, who was speaking at a press conference with President Nursultan Nazarbayev on the results of his visit to Alma-Ata. "The question of whether or not aid should be offered to Kazakhstan will be decided immediately, once the republic's government proposes the final variation to its anti-crisis programme and works out a final mechanism for the clearing of its foreign debt", he pointed out.

In Camdessus' opinion, Kazakhstan is capable of clearing its own foreign debt. Meetings and talks with the national state bank, the Finance Ministry and the government have re-inforced this conviction. Commenting on the possibilities for granting aid to former Soviet republics which were unwilling to enter into a unified ruble zone, Camdessus stressed that whether or not a ruble zone was adopted would have a significant bearing on the amount of IMF aid to be pledged. The aid would be pledged, but the main condition for this would be decisive steps towards a market economy.

The Kazakh president said that during the course of talks with Camdessus, an agreement had been made which stipulated that Kazakhstan could count on aid worth 4 times its IMF quota (Kazakhstan's quota is $220 mn. [million]—IF [INTERFAX]). Nazarbayev pointed out that the republic's budget was currently geared exclusively towards fulfilling the government's social programmes, which accounted for 70% of total expenditure. Nazarbayev said that IMF aid would make some degree of balancing the republic's budget in relation to other means of capital investment possible.

Kyrgyzstan

Turkey's Toptan Inaugurates Secretariat, Schools

TA0110083392 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1800 GMT 30 Sep 92

[Text] National Education Minister Koksal Toptan has said that Turkey's aim is to benefit the children in the Turkic republics, which have newly gained their independence, through contemporary educational opportunities. Toptan, who is in Bishkek to attend the second conference of education ministers of Turkish republics and communities, inaugurated the educational under secretariat and various high schools there. Yavuz Yorulmaz from the Turkish Radio and Television team in Bishkek reports the following:

[Yorulmaz] Toptan, who is in Kyrgyzstan to attend the conference, inaugurated the Bishkek Under Secretariat for Education, the Turkish-Kyrgyz Technical Girls School, and the Turkish-Kyrgyz High School. Addressing the inauguration ceremonies, Toptan said educational under secretariats will soon be operational in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan and that in this way cooperation with the Turkic republics will be further developed. Noting that the students who will attend these high schools will constitute a bridge between Turkey and these republics,

Toptan added that Turkey attaches special importance to the exchange of students and scientists with the Turkic republics. He noted that students studying in Turkey will become the young architects of the Turkic world on their return to their countries. Toptan later attended a student performance. He was also granted an honorary professorship by the state university, which the oldest university in Kyrgyzstan.

Meanwhile, education ministers and representatives attending the conference were received by Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev. In a statement at the meeting, Akayev said that Kyrgyzstan supports Turkey's cooperation with the Turkic republics and the role it has assumed. Noting that only through science and technology can one catch up with the contemporary world, Akayev added that the educational system should be reviewed within this framework.

Also addressing the meeting, Toptan said that Turkey is well aware of its responsibilities vis-a-vis recent developments. He noted that Turkey aims at benefiting the children in the Turkic republics through contemporary educational opportunities.

Tajikistan

Russian Commander: Peacekeeping Deployment Premature

OW0210135192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1901 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] General-Colonel Eduard Vorobyev, the chairman of the high command of the land forces of the Russian Federation, told an INTERFAX correspondent in Dushanbe that "the question of introducing peacekeeping forces into Tajikistan is still premature." According to the commander, the conditions necessary for such a deployment have not yet been established in the republic. In particular, opposing forces have not yet entered into a corresponding agreement by which monitoring of compliance with previously-adopted agreements would become the responsibility of the peacekeeping forces.

Vorobyev believes that in the event of an escalation of the conflict and the inability of the government of Tajikistan to maintain peace in the republic, in all likelihood CIS forces, rather than peacekeeping forces, would have to enter the country, because only they would be capable of disarming the combatants. Such a course of action, the general believes, would have to be undertaken jointly by the heads of state of the CIS, though he says that "under no circumstances must the opinion of Tajikistan be ignored." In the event that the conflict takes on a "threatening character," opined Vorobyev, Russian forces will withdraw from the objectives they are currently protecting, and move back to their permanent stations. The general says that the guarding of vitally important sites in Tajikistan must be accomplished by the appeals of the Tajik Government, regardless of whatever good intentions Russia has.

"The command of the Russian 201st Division is ready to play the role of mediator in the monitoring of the conflict, since both sides have made such appeals to Russian forces," emphasized Vorobyev. "The continuation of armed resistance may have a catastrophic impact on the economy of Tajikistan. The republic's leadership must, as soon as possible, devise an effective mechanism for putting a stop to this fratricidal war, otherwise it may take on a geopolitical character—and that might lead to the involvement of nearby states of the commonwealth."

Russian Troop Reinforcements Arrive

LD0110151992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1200 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] We have a report from the military structures of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry that a decision has been made to strengthen Russian troops in hot spots. Primarily, this concerns Russian army units and subunits stationed in Tajikistan, since, in line with a mutual accord between the Tajik and Russian Governments, these troops will be enlisted to protect and defend vitally important state facilities.

Because these units are experiencing an acute shortage of personnel and are not capable of completely fulfilling the tasks laid on them, a transfer of military subunits there from Russia is currently under way.

In particular, subunits of the Sibirskiy and Privolzhskiy-Uralskiy military districts have already arrived to strengthen the 201st Division.

It is essential to stress once again that the reinforcement of Russia's military presence in Tajikistan is being carried out in line with a mutual accord.

Russian troops will be enlisted only for the protection of state installations. There cannot be any talk about fulfilling any kind of policing functions.

Kurgan-Tyube Offical: Russian Army Helping 'Bandits'

PM0110141592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Sep 92 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Aleksandr Karpov report: "Tajikistan: Number of Casualties Runs Into Thousands. Nabiyev's Supporters Declared 'Traitors'"]

[Text] After the clause of the ultimatum delivered by acting Tajik President A. Iskandarov on the use of force against the illegal armed formations clashing in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast came into effect, the situation has again deteriorated sharply in the oblast's center.

Right now, while these lines are being transmitted, there is no communication with the oblast. The only source of

information was a press conference by N. Kurbanov, chairman of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast Soviet Executive Committee, who had come to Dushanbe. He stated that formations of bandits from the Kulyab side resumed hostilities on the morning of 27 September when they entered Kurgan-Tyube supported by tanks and armored personnel carriers. Street fighting began. Civilians came under fire. Many were killed and wounded. Today, N. Kurbanov reported, almost all the inhabitants have left the city. The official authorities were unable to do anything to protect the people.

In the main, N. Kurbanov links the new attack by Kulyab paramilitary formations with the active encouragement they have received from the command of Russian Army subunits. He stressed that the Russian motorized infantry division stationed in Tajikistan is committing a crime against the people of a sovereign state. In the last few days alone, three heavy tanks and one armored personnel carrier have disappeared from the territory of the regiment stationed in Kurgan-Tyube with the connivance of its commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel Merkulov, and have turned up in the hands of Kulyab military formations. The claim that this hardware was hijacked does not stand up because the combat vehicles left together with their crews. Incidentally, this is not the first incident of its kind.

A demand was aired at the press conference that Russian Army subunits should be immediately removed from the territory of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast or at the very least placed under special control. And that criminal proceedings should be initiated against General M. Ashurov, commander of the 201st Motorized Infantry Division, and Lieutenant Colonel Merkulov, commander of the Kurgan-Tyube regiment.

The oblast soviet executive committee chairman noted that all sociopolitical organizations in Kurgan-Tyube currently want just one thing: Peace and quiet for all the inhabitants. In his view, the cause of what is happening is the inability of the republic's government to resolve the bloody conflict which, if tough measures are not taken urgently, threatens to escalate into a civil war on a republicwide scale and bring the nation to the brink of self-destruction.

New and sinister details of events in Kurgan-Tyube are becoming clearer. The inhabitants of the city rushed outside the city limits. In the outskirts, while they were crossing the bridge over the Vakhsh river, they came under heavy fire. Tanks took part in reprisals against defenseless people. The exact number of killed and injured is still unknown. According to some reports, the number of casualties runs into hundreds. A number of houses and administrative buildings in the city were destroyed and burned. Tanks also took part in shelling villages in the "Budenyy" and "Tajikistan" Sovkhozes. There are no communications with Kurgan-Tyube. The up-to-date information filtering through to Tajikistan's official authorities is contradictory.

A government commission which has been specially established to investigate the facts is to find out how the combat hardware was hijacked. The commission members will obviously have to look into ot army units to the disposal of the warring groups. D. Aminov, deputy chairman of the Tajik National Security Committee, stated to journalists that these events are taking place.

The Russian forces' command has decided to reinforce the units stationed in Tajikistan with a view to halting the misappropriation of hardware and munitions and protecting servicemen and their families from the consequences of unlawful actions. However, the incident involving the transfer of three heavy tanks and an armored personnel carrier to the side of the military formations, which in Tajikistan have been officially declared traitors to the nation, has had a major public impact. The republic's Foreign Ministry has sent the Russian leadership a note explaining its alarm about what is happening. During the afternoon of 28 September the hotel building where the Russian Embassy in Dushanbe is located was picketed by a large group of young people. The pickets' placards expressed demands that Russian interference in the internal affairs of independent Tajikistan should be halted.

...According to information from the Tajik Foreign Ministry Press Center, armed clashes between Kurgan-Tyube home guardsmen and Kulyab rebels are continuing.

Parliament Official, Russian Commander Hold Peace Talks

OW0110160992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The deputy chairman of the Tajik parliament, Saifiddin Turayev, and the deputy commander of the Russian land forces, Eduard Vorobyov, have today had negotiations in Kurgan-Tyube with representatives from various armed political groups. Our correspondent reports from Kurgan-Tyube that, at the request of the Tajik government, the Russian forces are guarding the Vakhsh mineral fertiliser plant, the Kurgan-Tyube National Bank branch and approaches to the town.

Yesterday servicemen at one of the checkpoints confiscated from some civilians six hand grenades, six grenade thrower charges, a sack of gunpowder, four boxes of cartridges and over 100,000 roubles.

The commander of the Russian regiment stationed in Kurgan-Tyube, Yevgeniy Merkulov, told our correspondent the regiment feels safer now, after being reinforced. He said that, during clashes between Tajik armed groups, the regiment had to defend its premises, guard its weapons and equipment and protect its residential area.

According to Merkulov, threats have repeatedly been made against some of the regiment's servicemen. Some of the officers' families were taken prisoner.

The first deputy chairman of the Kurgan-Tyube executive committee, Temursho Akbarov, told our correspondent that more than 40,000 people, i.e. half of the population, have by now left the town, and none of the enterprises are working. The bread-baking plant, the regional executive committee, the interior department and several other buildings have been destroyed. The town is short of food, and there is still sporadic firing in it.

Minister Urges National Accord To Overcome Situation

LD0110160192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1536 GMT 1 Oct 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe October 1 TASS—All economic reforms are doomed to failure unless the opposing forces in the republic and the Tajik people itself achieve national accord, acting Tajikistan Prime Minister Abdumalik Abdulladzhanov told a news conference on Thursday [1 October]. He described the republic's sociopolitical and economic situation as extremely difficult.

The acting head of the National Reconciliation government said that he had recently held several official and unofficial meetings with leaders of political parties and movements. He said that, in his opinion, mutual understanding on a number of cardinal questions had been reached at the meetings.

Regarding the ways of overcoming the economic crisis, the acting premier said that there is no need to invent anything new. The experience of developed Eastern and Western countries should be used, with the reliance on the emerging class of medium and small entrepreneurs in the private sector. At the same time he believes that profit-showing viable state-owned enterprises have a right to exist.

Paper Says Prisoners To Be Freed if Food Goes

OW0210105292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO was received at 0825 GMT 2 Oct]

[Text] Domestic military personnel and guards of corrective labor establishments of Tajikistan will be forced to release all inmates if the prisons and colonies cannot manage to provide food for the inmates. This was stated in an announcement published Thursday [1 October] by a Tajik newspaper.

Law enforcement bodies certify that in addition to this, incidents of attacks on the detention centers have become more frequent, with aims of seizing weapons and freeing the prisoners.

It was reported that Colony No. 5 in the Yavan Valley (south of Dushanbe) has not received food—including bread—for the third day.

The document contains a demand that the government ensure that food is regularly delivered to the colonies, including food for the guard staff, and also that effective measures be undertaken to stop the attacks on corrective-labor camps. If the demands are not fulfilled, the law enforcement bodies "will be forced to lift the guarding from corrective-labor establishments and release the prisoners."

Ousted Leader Nabiyev Reflects on Resignation

MK0110095492 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Oct 92 pp 1, 3

[Telephone interview with former President Rakhman Nabiyev by Igor Rotar under the "Tajikistan" rubric; date not given: "Ousted President Hopes for Revenge"]

[Text] [Rotar] Rakhman Nabiyev, the circumstances of your resignation are unclear. You were intending to fly out to Khudzhand, but after you met some armed people at Dushanbe city airport, you unexpectedly signed a resignation statement.

[Nabiyev] I had made an arrangement with some Supreme Soviet Presidium members to meet with representatives of the republic's oblasts, Supreme Soviet Presidium members, and members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Tajikistan in the center of Leninabad Oblast—Khudzhand—in order to discuss the presidium's announcement of its lack of confidence in the president of Tajikistan. I left for the airport together with the members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium but en route, for an incomprehensible reason, the cars transporting the presidium members returned to the Council of Ministers dacha. So I found myself alone at the airport. While I was waiting for my missing companions, the airport was blockaded by the opposition. (NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA note—the opposition forces Nabiyev is talking about are represented by a democratically oriented bloc including the Islamic Revival Party, the Democratic Party of Tajikistan, the "Rastokhez" people's movement and the Pamir society "Lali Badakhshan.")

[Rotar] The press called these people "the youth of Dushanbe city"....

[Nabiyev] I can definitely state that they were opposition people, since they were being organized by certain Islamic Party leaders. I think that their plan included the physical elimination of the president, and if it had not been for the appearance of the CIS troops hardware, I might not be speaking to you over the telephone now.

[Rotar] Were you threatened?

[Nabiyev] Yes, and I was not the only one. They also threatened innocent people—women and children....

These people threatened to blow up the airport if I refused to sign the resignation statement.

[Rotar] If I understand you correctly, when the opposition was battling with you it was operating under a different name.

[Nabiyev] Yes, that is true, and indeed, the airport incident was not the only one of its kind. Remember the seizure of the presidential palace. This was done by people who called themselves "Kulyab refugees." However, it was no secret to anyone that they lived and were nurtured at the kaziat (the Spiritual Administration of the Muslims of Tajikistan in Dushanbe—NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA) and I know for sure that they operated under the obvious control of the opposition. Let me give you an example. I was once asked a question at a session "on behalf of 10,000 Kulyab refugees." However, when I started to ascertain who exactly was asking the question, it turned out that they were representatives of the "Lali Badakhshan" opposition society, which has nothing to do with Kulyab.

[Rotar] Who killed Republic Prosecutor Khuvaydulloyev?

[Nabiyev] In my view this was the work of the opposition. Judge for yourself: When one of the terrorists was captured, the opposition immediately began to campaign for his release. I believe they have a clearly formulated plan for the physical elimination of the republic's top leaders whom they find objectionable—including me.

[Rotar] The opposition is accusing you of betraying national interests, claiming that you intended to appeal to Yeltsin for military support.

[Nabiyev] It is true. I did appeal to Yeltsin for assistance in bringing CIS peacekeeping forces into the republic. Marshal Shaposhnikov's visit to the capital of Tajikistan was specifically linked to this. Unfortunately, at that time by no means everyone assessed my initiative correctly. And yet I am convinced that this was the only way out! But now, according to my information, the republic's present leaders, including chairman of the parliament Akbarsho Iskandarov, have arrived at this realization.

[Rotar] And was the assault on you by an enraged mob at Khudzhand airport also the work of the opposition?

[Nabiyev] You know, this is completely false information. I also read in the papers that I was assaulted, but the point is that I did not even go to Khudzhand airport.

[Rotar] Rakhman Nabiyev, today a united Tajikistan does not exist. Can you now see a real political figure capable of leading the country out of chaos and heading a new state?

[Nabiyev] But what kind of leaders are they.... Look, I appointed the members of the Cabinet of Ministers, and then they expressed a lack of confidence in me! This is not normal! You know, I do not blame these people—they were not acting of their own will, since they were hostages of the opposition.

Do you know what worries me? Tajikistan is the only republic in Central Asia to have held genuinely democratic elections for head of state: We had 10 candidates for president. And after that the lawful president is removed from power!

[Rotar] So, does President Nabiyev still hope to get his revenge?

[Nabiyev] You should understand that I am not worried for myself—I am motivated by a feeling of duty to the electorate. The main thing now is to preserve the republic. [Nabiyev ends]

From the NEGA agency's data base. Rakhman Nabiyevich Nabiyev was born in 1930 to a peasant family in the north of Tajikistan. He is an agronomist by profession. Between 1961 and 1971 Nabiyev was involved in party work. From 1971 to 1973 he occupied the post of republic minister of agriculture, and then he headed the Tajik SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers. In 1982 Nabiyev became first secretary of the Communist Party of Tajikistan. At the beginning of perestroyka Rakhman Nabiyev's political career went into temporary decline, and he found himself in "honorary exile"—in the post of chairman of nature protection in Tajikistan. Following the resignation in 1991 of the Tajik leader Kakhor Makhkamov, Rakhman Nabiyev reemerged onto the political arena: The party nomenklatura elite unreservedly supported Nabiyev's candidacy at the presidential elections in Tajikistan. In November 1991 Nabiyev became republic president. The new post did not bring peace and happiness to the former leader of the Tajik communists—the half-year of his rule was characterized by opposition activity unprecedented in Central Asia. On 7 September, under pressure from "the youth of Dushanbe city," Rakhman Nabiyev resigned. Now the ousted president lives in his native region in the city of Khudzhand.

Uzbekistan

Karimov, Finnish Leader Discuss Trade Interests

LD0111145192 Helsinki Suomen Yleisradio Network in Finnish 1100 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] President Mauno Koivisto and President Islam Karimov today had talks in the capital of Uzbekistan, Tashkent. According to President Koivisto there is a wide trade-economic interest on both sides. Finland for its part is prepared, according to its limited possibilities, to take part in the development plans of the Uzbek economy. Foreign Minister Paavo Vaeyrynen had talks with his counterpart. The ministers talked about the still deteriorating situation in Uzbekistan's neighboring country, Tajikistan, among other things.

Kyrgyz Leader Visits To Conclude Bilateral Treaty

MK0110130092 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Oct 92 p 3

[Report by Semen Novoprudskiy under the "Uzbekistan" rubric: "Askar Akayev and Islam Karimov in Favor of Bilateral Cooperation. People of Uzbekistan Will Live in Secular Democratic State If They Approve Draft of New Constitution"]

[Excerpt] President of Kyrgyzstan Askar Akayev has made an official visit to Uzbekistan. The visit was conceived as a response to Islam Karimov's trip to Kyrgyzstan 18 months ago. The main aims of the visit were the conclusion of a bilateral treaty on friendship and cooperation and a trade and economic agreement for 1993. The bilateral treaty was signed by Islam Karimov and Askar Akayev as well as the prime ministers of the two countries. The situation in the region was also discussed during the bilateral talks. The program of the visit was a full one. In the space of one day the guests managed to visit the Gazalkent plant for the manufacture of cracking equipment [krekery], equipped by Germany with state-of-the-art equipment. After that, the guest, putting on an apron over his jacket, picked cotton at one of the state farms.

During a news conference held after the meeting both sides stressed that bilateral cooperation is a priority for them.

According to observers, the talks that have just ended may be a very successful prologue to the Bishkek meeting of the leaders of the CIS states, which, by all accounts, is still scheduled for 9 October. [passage omitted]

New Draft Constitution Declares Democratic State

PM0210093392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Shakhabutdin Zaynutdinov: "New Constitution Drafted In Uzbekistan"]

[Text] Tashkent—According to the draft, Uzbekistan is declared a sovereign, democratic republic, in which public life develops on the basis of diverse political institutions, ideologies, and opinions.

At the same time, it stresses that "no ideology or religion can be established as the official state ideology or religion." The presidential form of government will remain in the republic. The head of state is elected for a term of five years and the same person cannot be president for more than two consecutive terms. During his period of office the president must suspend his membership of any political party.

[An page three article in Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian on 3 October adds: "A new draft constitution has been published in Uzbekistan which will be discussed at a nationwide referendum. Under the draft basic law, Uzbekistan will be declared a secular democratic presidential republic. The radical antireligious nature of the draft is obvious. In particular, religion has been officially separated from the state, and no ideology or religion can be established as the official or state one. The draft constitution guarantees freedom to political parties and public associations, and the observance of human rights within a universal declaration which the Uzbek parliament ratified back in 1990; and it forbids censorship of the mass media.

["The draft constitution does not envisage any possibilities of the president's removal from his post other than because of illness. Under the draft constitution the president cannot be subjected to impeachment even in the event of his committing anticonstitutional actions. The parliament can be dissolved by the president if there are insurmountable internal differences or if the parliament repeatedly adopts decisions contravening the constitution.

["According to the draft, the president is elected for a five-year term and cannot occupy his post for more than two consecutive terms. The following norm, which is unprecedented in international practice, is stipulated: When the president leaves office on the expiration of the constitutional term, he is made a life member of the Constitutional Court."]

Azerbaijan

President Expects Russia To Strengthen Ties

LD0110190092 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1519 GMT 1 Oct 92

[By AZERINFORM-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Natan Barskiy]

[Text] Baku October 1 TASS—"If such economically powerful countries as the United States and Great Britain are interested in contacts with Azerbaijan, then it is quite natural that Russia seeks to establish equal economic cooperation with its nearest neighbor," Abulfaz Elchibey, president of the Republic of Azerbaijan, said summing up the results of Russian Premier Yegor Gaydar's visit to Baku. According to Elchibey, the Russian Federation seeks to develop bilateral relations to fill up vacuum formed lately in the Azeri-Russian relations.

Touching on the issue of Azerbaijan's entry into the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Azeri president noted that his attitude towards the Commonwealth had not changed. "I do not take it seriously," Abulfaz Elchibey said stressing, as he did it repeatedly before, that the problem of Azerbaijan's entry into the Commonwealth is under the jurisdiction of the Azeri Parliament.

Official Rules Out Full Membership in CIS

LD0210111592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Text] Azerbaijan is not to become a full member of the CIS, Panakh Guseynov, State Secretary to the President of the Republic, has said on national television. He stressed that the People's Front of Azerbaijan has always regarded any central body of power on the territory of the former USSR in a negative light. According to Guseynov, even if the National Mejlis [assembly] were to vote in favor of Azerbaijan's becoming a part of the CIS, the People's Front would use all constitutional means to seek to repeal such a decision.

During the election campaign Abulfaz Elchibey was consistently opposed to membership of the CIS. At the same time Isa Kamberov, speaker of the Mejlis and leader of the (Musavat) Party, which still cooperates with the People's Front, has spoken on several occasions of the possibility of Azerbaijan's joining the Commonwealth.

Outline of Russian Treaty's Key Provisions

OW0210103692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0845 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Azeri president's experts are actively preparing for Elchibey's visit to Moscow, scheduled for October 12. The main goal of Elchibey's visit is the signing of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual security between the Russian Federation and Azerbaijan. The key provisions of this document are as follows.

If a situation arises which, in the opinion of Azerbaijan or Russia may pose a threat to peace, disturb peace or damage their security, both countries may seek urgent consultations. They will exchange corresponding information and look for mutually acceptable measures, including mutual assistance required for overcoming such a situation.

Both Azerbaijan and Russia shall ban and curb the activity of organizations, groups and individuals, targeted against the state sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the other state.

They shall also abstain from actions detrimental to each other, and ensure that their territories not be used for aggression or other violent actions.

Russian citizens in Azerbaijan and Azeri citizens in Russia shall not be discriminated against. They shall perform the same duties as far as employment goes, with the exception of appointment to the posts and engagement in activity which is connected with the citizenship of this particular country.

Russian citizens in Azerbaijan and Azeri citizens in Russia shall have the right to appeal to courts and other state bodies to have their rights defended, and enjoy equal judicial rights.

Azerbaijan and Russia shall conclude this treaty for protecting the rights of the citizens belonging to ethnic, linguistic, cultural and religious minorities.

Aware of the role of the Caspian Sea and its natural resources in the development of the coastal states, and taking due account of the Caspian Sea's legal regime, specified, among other documents, in the Russian-Persian Treaty of 1921 and in the Soviet-Iranian Trade and Sea-Navigation Treaty of 1940, the two states will cooperate for preserving the natural environment of the Caspian Sea and for using its resources thriftily.

Azerbaijan and Russia will ensure cargo shipments and passenger transportation through their sea, river and air ports, rail- and motor-ways, and pipelines, and conclude special agreements on the cargo and passenger transit on the basis of the most-favoured nation status.

The two countries pledge to ensure the implementation of the principle of open borders.

They will also set up a joint human rights commission.

The treaty will be concluded for a period of 10 years and will be automatically prolonged for another 10 years if neither Azerbaijan nor Russia expresses the wish to

denounce it by notifying the partner at least 6 months before the expiration of the decade.

The Presidential Bulletin has obtained the full text of the Russian-Azeri treaty.

Georgia

Gagra Commandant Office Reports Intense Fighting

OW0210113292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1115 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the Gagra military commandant's office, seven Georgian guards have been killed and 74 wounded in the past 24 hours in fighting near that town. The commandant's office spokesman said "the past 24 hours have been the most difficult period since the conflict began". By last evening Abkhazian forces and volunteers from the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples had launched a large-scale attack on the village of Kolkhida. The Georgians retreated but then managed to throw the Abkhazians back, though at the cost of heavy losses.

Fire continued at night too, the Abkhazians attacking Gagra with Alazan missiles.

A Georgian government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Kavsadze is at present visiting Gagra. The commander of the Georgian forces in Abkhazia, Gia Karkarashvili, is also in the town, being in charge of its defence.

The Gagra commandant's office spokesman also said commandos from the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples and loads of weapons are continuing to arrive in Gudauta by sea from Russian territory.

According to the press service of the Abkhazian Supreme Soviet, around 3:00 a.m. today Russian paratroops acting as a peace-keeping force on the Gumista River near Sukhumi left their positions at the demand of the Georgian State Council, returning to their barracks. Immediately after that the Georgians subjected the Abkhazian militia's positions to heavy fire all along the front line. Large Georgian infantry forces and more armoured vehicles were brought into the area.

The Abkhazians expect a large-scale Georgian offensive in the region. As fighting grew more intense in the vicinity of Eshera, the Abkhazian militia forces was ordered by its command to continue its advance within Gagra.

According to the Abkhazian Supreme Soviet press service, the militia was able to advance by 3 km, capturing Kolkhida and seizing several howitzers, a large number of rifles and some armoured vehicles. Fourteen militiamen were killed and 35 wounded, the Georgian losses running into dozens.

The attack on the town caused panic in it. Thousands of civilians rushed towards the Russian border to be met there by Georgian detachments. A major clash ensued near Leselidze in which several people were killed.

According to the press service, this morning two Georgian SU-25 attack planes and four MiG-24 helicopters bombed and fired missiles at the Abkhazian militia's positions near Kolkhida.

Gamsakhurdia Supporters Attack Khobi Police

OW0110154292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1439 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press center of the Georgian Interior Ministry informed IF [INTERFAX] that on the night September 30 a group of 50 armed supporters of ex-President Gamsakhurdia attacked the Khobi district police department. As a result of shooting, four of the attackers were killed.

Earlier, about 500 supporters of Georgia's ex-president held a meeting in Batumi. The meeting was addressed by leader of the Democratic Union of Russia Valeria Novodvorskaya. She urged the demonstrators to organize an armed uprising against the Georgian authorities and foil the parliamentary elections scheduled for October 11.

Meanwhile, Georgian Defence Minister Tengiz Kitovani told journalists in Tbilisi that shortly, the bandits supporting Gamsakhurdia will be done away with. He said that defence units will take part in the operations to eliminate the bandits.

Parliament Elections Set for Most of Abkhazia

LD0210100492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 2 Oct 92

[Text] Elections to the Georgian parliament, scheduled to be held in Abkhazia on 11 October, are to go ahead, an INTERFAX correspondent was informed by Tamaz Nadareyshvili, deputy speaker of the autonomous republic's parliament. The only exceptions are Gudautskiy Rayon and the town of Tkvarcheli in Ochamchirskiy Rayon. Gudautskiy Rayon is controlled by Abkhaz armed formations and volunteers from the Confederation of the Caucasian Highland People, while the situation remains tense in Tkvarcheli, where Abkhazia's radical nationalists are strong. The Georgian National Guard guarantees the safety of the voters in all other rayons of Abkhazia, stressed Nadareyshvili.

South Ossetia Plans To Boycott 11 Oct Elections

LD0110153192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1229 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz September 29 TASS—South Ossetia will boycott Georgian parliamentary elections on October 11 fearing an aggravation of the situation in the republic making part of Georgia. The Central Election Commission postponed the election date on the territory of South Ossetia for indefinite time.

Although quiet reigns on the whole territory of South Ossetia and in the 15-kilometre long buffer corridor guarded by Russian, Georgian and North Ossetian peace-keepers, tension remains in political situation in the republic.

Local authorities split on the tactics of implementing the second stage of the settlement connected with the status of the republic. Two trends appeared on the issue. One of them is supported by speaker Torez Kulumbekov, the other one—by Prime Minister Oleg Teziyev.

In the meantime, reconstruction of the administrative centre of Tskhinvali, ruined in Georgian-Ossetian conflict, is going on. Electricity, gas and water are being supplied to the city, telephone communication lines are functioning. Russian, Georgian and North Ossetian experts calculated that 40 billion roubles will be necessary to restore the national economy in the region.

State Council's Ioseliani Views Current Problems

AU0110140992 Poznan WPROST in Polish 20 Sep 92 pp 36, 37

[Interview with Dzhaba Ioseliani, State Council deputy chairman, by Maria Graczyk in Tbilisi; date not given: "The Caucasian Lebanon"]

[Text] **[Graczyk] Have your hopes been realized following Eduard Shevardnadze's return to Georgia?**

[Ioseliani] Yes. Thanks to his standing in the world, we have been recognized as a sovereign state.

[Graczyk] Georgia, however, continues to be a troubled land, one that is both politically and economically unstable.

[Ioseliani] The revolution here has not ended yet. One cannot achieve lasting stability within six months. Even Shevardnadze cannot wave a magic wand that can resolve every problem. Moreover, his persona continues to arouse a lot of controversy; in western Georgia he is called "Moscow's lackey" and an "agent of the Kremlin." People remember him here as a Communist. Therefore, he has to win the people over gradually and gain their trust.

[Graczyk] Do you think that Shevardnadze's diplomatic abilities are sufficient to overcome the growing problems in the country, the spread of anarchy and terrorism?

[Ioseliani] Shevardnadze has the right disposition and qualifications to stand up to this. The one thing against him is his past. However, I have faith in his wisdom and strength. Gorbachev himself once admitted that it was not he but Shevardnadze who had initiated perestroyka much earlier in Georgia. Without his perestroyka, we would not be here. The Brezhnev system would have possibly lasted another 20 years or so, but would then have collapsed violently. It was Shevardnadze, therefore, who prevented a catastrophe and this cannot be underestimated, even if he was a Communist. Moreover, I always remember him as being a progressively minded person.

While in prison, never for one moment, not even in my wildest dreams, did I think it possible that the Communists would leave power. There was only one chance in a million that someone would sneak into power who would dismantle the system from the top. This was a dream that came true before our very eyes.

[Graczyk] What is now preventing Georgia's formal independence from becoming a reality?

[Ioseliani] Georgia is at last a sovereign state, but certain internal difficulties still remain. It will acquire full independence only when its economic problems are resolved. We continue to be strongly tied to the old economic structures of the socialist era. However, sooner or later, we will change our orientation and will establish new commercial contacts. For the moment, this old system still suits us, as the quality of Georgian goods is not of the best and the only market that we can find for them is in the former republics of the USSR.

[Graczyk] Which path leads to economic independence?

[Ioseliani] In reforming the economy, we will strive toward free-market solutions. However, in order to achieve these aims, we need help in the form of investment from capitalist states. At present, we are hearing only promises. We appreciate the humanitarian aid, but, as the Chinese say, "you should not give a hungry man a fish in order to teach him to fish."

[Graczyk] However, it is difficult today even to fly to Georgia, as many flights to Tbilisi are cancelled owing to the fuel shortage.

[Ioseliani] Unfortunately, the old corrupt socialist system still functions here, in which shortages are a source of income.

[Graczyk] Nationalists in Moscow maintain that there is a very simple and also peaceful way of restoring the Soviet Union: Cut off the oil supplies.

[Ioseliani] They obviously do not understand that one cannot turn back the pages of history. The Soviet Union has ceased to exist and no fuel will help them here!

[Graczyk] A 150,000-strong army of the former USSR continues, however, to be stationed in Georgia. Do you not think that this could form the bridge-head of a new Russian empire?

[Ioseliani] I do not think that there is a center that could direct all this. The Army is more frequently beginning to conduct a policy of its own, over which no one has control.

[Graczyk] The troops of the former USSR stationed in the Transcaucasus are, however, playing an important role. Is there a possibility that a Russian or Turkish sphere of influence will be reestablished in this region?

[Ioseliani] We will turn toward Europe both through Russia and Turkey. In particular, we should not ignore the latter as the Turkish experience could serve as a good example for us. Reliance only upon America and western Europe will not bring us anything. However, there can be no question of any country achieving dominance in the Transcaucasus as this would be disastrous for us.

[Graczyk] Certain Georgians maintain that the West has, for the second time this century, "resold" this region as a Russian sphere of influence in exchange for the Baltic states.

[Ioseliani] I doubt this. However, even if such an agreement has been concluded between the United States and Russia, then both sides have made a big mistake. We belong to the UN and we will always seek to protect our interests; we will not allow ourselves to become a pawn in the superpower game.

[Graczyk] Georgia's situation does not seem to be the most advantageous from the geopolitical point of view.

[Ioseliani] It is not ideal but the majority of our current problems stem from complex internal conditions. We continue to experience difficulties in bringing stability to the country; terrorism and adventurist political chicanery are rife. Our militia is not very efficient; these are the old corrupt cadres that have not adapted themselves to the new reality. After all, it was Jesus Christ who said that "neither do men put new wine in old bottles."

[Graczyk] It is claimed that whoever rules in Tbilisi rules the Transcaucasus. Who is this today?

[Ioseliani] That dependence always stemmed from the geographical situation of Georgia, which for centuries has found itself at the crossroads of important trade routes. This is no longer the case; Tbilisi does not control even the whole of Georgia. At present, we have an "interregnum" in the Trancaucasus; there is a dearth of leaders.

[Graczyk] At the beginning of this century, there existed a federation of Caucasian peoples. Would such a solution again be viable at a time of new processes of integration?

[Ioseliani] No, because no state would agree to this today. All of them are getting excited about their own sovereignty just like children.

[Graczyk] Abkhazia recently declared its independence; South Ossetia also wants to separate. Is there a real danger of the break-up of Georgia?

[Ioseliani] The current separatist mood in Georgia is nothing more than stupidity dictated by ambition. Abkhazia wants to be an independent state yet the Abkhaz do not even constitute a people; they are nothing more than a tribe. They do not, as yet, have a developed culture; they largely use the Russian language whereas their own written language is barely more than a few decades old. Furthermore, they are only 17 percent [of the population of Abkhazia]. They haven't the slightest right to declare their secession. The dispute there solely concerns the domination of the Abkhaz minority over the Georgians, who comprise 48 percent of the population.

All these claims and wild aspirations will end, however, when the country attains an appropriate level of economic development. Full stomachs and pockets are the best antidotes to chauvinist sentiments. The same can be said in the case of Ossetia. This is what happens when children get behind the steering wheel....

[Graczyk] What, then, is the future for the Transcaucasus, which reminds one of an ethnic mosaic and which could at any moment become a hotbed of many conflicts? There is already a war going on in Nagorno-Karabakh and there is unrest in Georgia.

[Ioseliani] At the moment, there are three centers that are striving to preserve their territorial integrity—Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. There exist many options for the future; perhaps we will succeed in creating a "common Caucasian home."

[Graczyk] At the moment, this region resembles a powder keg, and it is being ever more frequently compared to Lebanon.

[Ioseliani] The situation here is still more complex than that in the Near East. The slightest provocation could result in scores of conflicts that could turn into a war that would be difficult to stop. In the Transcaucasus, we have not only religious but also ethnic, economic, political, and historical problems; everything that can possibly divide people. There is no shortage of sparks that could ignite a fire.

[Graczyk] You do, however, seem optimistic.

[Ioseliani] Indeed. Life here would have no meaning otherwise. Furthermore, "if the head thinks too much, the heart aches."

[Graczyk] One possible conflict in the Transcaucasus could stem from religious differences. Georgia, which adopted Christianity in the 4th century, must again face up to Islamization.

[Ioseliani] At the moment, this is only a potential threat. If we conduct a prudent and tolerant policy, we will avoid this confrontation in time. Otherwise, we could have problems with the Georgians in Ajaria in the south of the country, who were Islamized by the Turks.

[Graczyk] Former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who was overthrown, among others, by you, often repeated that the January conflict had been planned in Moscow in order to facilitate Shevardnadze's return to Georgia.

[Ioseliani] I find it difficult to comprehend this senseless theory. In Gamsakhurdia's eyes, everyone was a Kremlin agent, even Bush, whom he wanted to see overthrown. He was not a normal person. He made promises right, left, and center, and the people allowed themselves to be duped.

[Graczyk] However, he continues to state that he will return to Georgia.

[Ioseliani] He can come whenever he wants but he will not remain alive for long. He will again provoke a war, and this time he will be a victim of it.

[Graczyk] However, he still has his followers who, from time to time, make themselves known.

[Ioseliani] I would call the confrontations with the bands of "Zviadists" a war against the prefects; under Gamsakhurdia, they were bandits with legal powers sitting on the prefect's chair, whereas today they are ordinary thugs who rob trains and take hostages.

[Graczyk] Unlike Shevardnadze, who recently issued a so-called manifesto of reconciliation, you have declared yourself in favor of a solution that uses force and the final neutralization of Gamsakhurdia's supporters.

[Ioseliani] This is because I have exhausted all other means. During the last two months, there have been two attempts on my life, which have claimed five lives, including a woman and a child. I have proof that they were organized by Gamsakhurdia's people. Furthermore, these were people who were pardoned by me on three occasions and whose lives I spared. What can one do with such people? I believe that Shevardnadze agrees, but he is a diplomat and still wants to try other methods. Let him do so, but I doubt that his peaceful means of persuasion will bring any results. Perhaps a few will surrender, but the rest have to be dealt with differently—with the use of force.

[Graczyk] You have become "target number one" for Gamsakhurdia's supporters. Aren't you afraid of venturing out onto the streets?

[Ioseliani] You must be joking.

Estonia

Interview With Fatherland Candidate for Premier

WS0210130692 Tallinn ETA NEWS BULLETIN in English 1424 GMT 1 Oct 92

[From 1 October POSTIMEES, p 2]

[Text] Thursday, October 1—The biggest faction of the Riigikogu, the Fatherland faction, published the name of their premier candidate last Friday [25 September]. Mart Laar was born in Viljandi, grew up and went to school in Tallinn. He graduated from the Tartu University as a historian, having been one of the leaders of a youth movement "Noor-Tartu" (Tartu Youth) there. He became one of the leaders and establishers of the Estonian Heritage Society and the Estonian Committee of Citizen. He was deputy to the Estonian Congress and member of the Estonian Committee. In March, 1990, he became an MP. Married, two children. POSTIMEES has published an interview with the premier candidate.

Q: What should be task of the new premier and which qualities should a person have to manage with these tasks?

ML: I think the main task would be to coordinate the interests of different political forces and make them move in one direction. Thus, the premier's tasks in the new government will be mainly political and this must be taken as a basis. One of the main features that the premier should have is the courage to make decisions. He must have a vision of Estonia's future. If he does not have that, I am afraid that we will be stucking [word as received] in minor problems and will not carry out major changes in any sphere.

Q: Could we speak of all coalition partners who will form the government?

ML: Too early. The coalition negotiations are still held and different political forces will have to decide yet.

Q: How would you comment the government staff that was published in Tuesday's PAEVALEHT?

ML: I would not comment it at all. It is not the question of persons but solving the content of problems. The most important thing at present is to depend on these negotiations held at present.

Q: Former MP Jaak Allik has spoken out more than other politicians of the new government, what it could be like, claiming that it would be most reasonable for the Fatherland faction to give up cooperation with the Moderates and join with the Popular Front.

ML: I think that such a government would be very insecure and unstable, leading a populist policy ending up with no changes. As for the Moderates, those people who have watched the election campaigns closely could notice our common standpoints in lots of important issues. It will be inevitable that such parties will be cooperating most probably. As for Mr Allik, he has written his articles to support the Safe Home, representing more of his political personality than an analytical one.

Q: How have the election results been accepted in the West?

ML: Well, there have been congratulations from Finland, Sweden and Germany. Estonia has been a pleasant contrast to Romania where the old nomenclature was re-elected. The fact that new political forces won the elections, shows that Estonians are more mature politically. I have been hinted that after the elections, the interest for Estonia's development has grown in the West. Soon I will be able to tell more about it after I have met top politicians in Madrid.

Q: Are the late political steps of Russia connected with elections in Estonia?

ML: Russia tried to use the elections for anti-propaganda, paying no attention to the results of the elections. Russia announced before the elections that the right-wing parties have no support in Estonia. I have the feeling that Russian politicians are pragmatic enough to follow the further steps of the new government and which policy will be led. I have no illusions in this respect. The results of Estonia's elections are a test to Russia how the wish of a country and its people to break free from an imperialist system could be broken. We have been chosen to be a test grounds for Russia trying if the threats and pressure would make the train go back or not. The election results indicate it could be hard for them. Russia has to choose now if they will give up the aim or press more hard. Both variants are possible and we will see in the near future which way it has gone. I would like to hope that Estonian people and the political forces will keep together under Russia's pressure.

Defense Minister Optimistic About Russian Troop Withdrawal

LD0110181892 Tallinn Radio Estonia in English 1620 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Excerpt] The Estonian defense minister is optimistic about troop withdrawal. Russian troops will leave Estonia even more quickly than expected.

Estonian Defense Minister Ulo Uluots made the statement on a press conference on Thursday [1 October]. Mr. Uluots said that Russia was having great difficulties in paying the salaries of officers in hard currency. [passage indistinct].

Russia has said it will pull out its troops from Estonia by 1994. Estonia has been insisting on the July 1993 deadline.

The Estonian defense minister also said that the Russian Army units in Estonia don't pose actual threats any more. He added that the question was purely a political one. [passage omitted]

Latvia

Officials Welcome NATO Naval Forces

LD0110201792 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1000 GMT 1 Oct 92

[Text] This morning, Latvian Supreme Council Deputy Chairman Andrejs Krastins and State Security head Juris Vectirans, as well as Juris Dobelis, of the Defense and Internal Affairs Commission and Deputy Aleksandrs Kirsteins, of the Foreign Affairs Commission, received the commander of the NATO Navy, Hildesley, in the White Hall. The ambassador of Great Britain to the Republic of Latvia, Richard Christopher Samuel, also took part in the talk.

Eight NATO ships from five nations have arrived in Latvia. They are the first NATO naval force visitors in Latvia, 400 people in all. They will get acquainted with Riga, but on Saturday and Sunday they will host Latvians on the ships so the people will have an opportunity to see for themselves how threatening these forces have been, as it was propagandized in Latvia during the years of socialism. As Juris Dobelis emphasized, though, in reality there was no such a barrier for the Latvian people. Quite the contrary, they have looked at the activities of the NATO states with hope.

Andrejs Krastins, familiarizing the guests with the main problems of the Latvian state at the moment, expressed hope that the NATO naval forces will also promote the withdrawal of the Russian Army: first of all, the vacating of our ports and territorial waters by Russian warships and technical equipment. Perhaps they will help control concealed activities taking place in ports, on bases, and at sea. But according to the information at the disposal of the security service, it is known that Russian naval commanders are trying to sell submarines and military equipment to third countries. Submarines have even been noticed somewhere in the direction of the Persian Gulf.

In reply, Mr. Hildesley said that political decisions are made by politicians and the military obey them. Therefore, he listened with interest to information about the relations with the Russian Army in Latvia but considered that the presence of Russian warships in Latvia is a source of instability. The ambassador added that the Government of Great Britain, just like the governments of the other NATO states, agrees with the Latvian demands and finds them justified.

As the commander himself is British, Latvia acknowledged Great Britain's concrete assistance in strengthening Latvian independence as rendered by its military forces as early as 1918 and 1919. Deputy Dobelis noted as an example of this gratitude that during the past years Latvian people have painstakingly taken care of tombs of fallen English soldiers in Jelgava cemetery. Mr. Krastins expressed his gratitude particularly for the assistance by the Royal British Navy in restoration our naval forces. Juris Vectirans conveyed his thanks for help in training the personnel of the security service and the Home Defense Guard. Aleksandrs Kirsteins said that the support of the Western countries and NATO in the withdrawal of the Russian Army from Latvia was sufficient at the moment. Nevertheless, it must be continued, because, as he said, struggle between different political groups in Russia often results in unpredictable events and forces the Russian Government to make chauvinistic decisions.

The NATO delegation will be in Riga until 5 October. This Saturday and Sunday you are invited to visit the NATO warships.

Council of Ministers Orders Takeover of Airfields

LD0210085692 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1400 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Excerpt] A resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia on the protection of airfields of the Republic of Latvia, their status, and the guaranteeing of the safety of flights, says that the Ministry of Transport is taking under its administration the former USSR air force's airfields at Vainode and Paplaka. Vainode has already been visited by representatives of the Department of Aviation. [passage omitted]

Lithuania

Butkevicius Holds Talks With Polish Defense Minister

WS0110130492 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN in English 1844 GMT 30 Sep 92

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 90]

[Text] 30 September 1992—Yesterday on the invitation of the Minister of National Defence of Poland Janusz Onyszkiewicz the Minister of National Defence of Lithuania Audrius Butkevicius began his three-day visit in Poland.

At their meeting the two ministers discussed the possibility of setting up bilateral working groups which would analyse problems of security and create mechanisms of mutual trust. After the meeting Mr. Janusz Onyszkiewicz told the journalists: "We would like to reach an agreement on our defence policy and support each other on the international arena".

Later the Minister of National Defence of Lithuania was received by the Chief of the National Security Bureau in the office of the President of Poland Jerzy Milewski. They discussed the problems of security in Europe, bilateral military cooperation, the presence of the Russian armed forces in the region of Kaliningrad as well as the issues of the crossing points on the border between Lithuania and Poland.

Audrius Butkevicius paid a visit to the place of the 1410 Tannenberg battle and laid a wreath to the Lithuanian and Polish victors. Today he will visit the military district of Krakow.

Stankevicius Refuses Participation in Seimas Elections

LD0210091192 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Ceslovas Stankevicius, deputy head of the Supreme Council of Lithuania, has announced his refusal to take part in the upcoming elections to the Seimas, the new parliament of the republic. He cited as his reasons his personal mistakes and the fact that as a former Communist Party member he will never be able to shed the guilt over everything the party has done. [passage omitted]